DEPENDE

40,000 in Arrival * Scare over Beto faulty Aids test

Ministers accused of delaying information

LIZ HUNT Health Editor

Health ministers were under pressure last night to explain why they delayed telling the public that a blood test for the Aids virus was faulty, and that people who have tested negative could be infected with HIV.

Up to 40,000 blood samples are to be refested and hundreds of people are now facing an anxious Bank Holiday, after the Department of Health confirmed that the IMX HIV1/HIV2 antibody test, used in some NHS laboratories since September 1995, was not reliable.

Aids charities, hospitals, and heiplines are being swamped with calls but can do little to reassure people at present. The and March to use condoms during sex, and to go for retesting as soon as possible.

The IMX test is also available throughout Europe, South America and Asia, posing huge problems for Abbott Laboratories, the Chicago-based manufacturer, which halted distribution of the test on 25 March.

Doctors say that only 1 per cent of the 60,000 HIV tests carried out annually are positive. and that the vast majority of will be reconfirmed as negative.

The Department of Health had known of problems with the IMX test, one of several used in the NHS, since last week, but said it wanted to delay the announcement until next Tuesday, when plans for retesting blood were in place, and Aids charities had been briefed.

Instead. Aids workers say they have been left to deal with thousands of worried people, unable to get medical advice because most clinics are closed for

Harriet Harman, Labour's health spokeswoman, said that the Easter Bank Holiday had exacerbated the crisis for many. "It is unfortunate that the Department of Health did not notify people as soon as they got the information, rather than wait for a public holiday."

Susie Parsons, executive director of London Lighthouse. Europe's biggest HIV centre. where extra staff were brought in yesterday to man the switch-

IN BRIEF

Clinton in arms row

Bill Clinton tacitly approved

shipments of Iranian arms to

Bosnia, despite the UN arros

Bomb victims' plight

Families living in flats damaged

by the Docklands bomb have re-

ceived no government com-

An attempt to throw all 75

members of the Law Society's

ruling council out of office will

take place next week. Page 8

Dry with sunny spells in most

Legal challenge

' Today's weather

Page 6

boards, said lack of formal

guidance from the Government had hindered its work.

We understand that the manufacturers of this test suspended it on 25 March, which is quite some time ago, and we had to read about it in the press this morning. We have been trying to get through to the Department of Health all morning to help the people who are calling us, but unfortunately the lines are just blocked."

Dr Graham Winyard, deputy chief medical officer, said he "deeply regretted" the anxiety caused by the premature announcement. He advised people to make use of helplines over the weekend, adding: "The Terrence Higgins Trust is ad- samples are already being test-HIV test between September vast majority that have tested negativé will still be negative.

A letter sent on 29 March by Abbott Laboratories in Maidenhead, Berkshire, to laboratories which use the test, is believed to have been the source of the leak. A spokesman for Abbott Laboratories in Chicago said yesterday that the company had been alerted to a potential problem in late March when European laboratories reported inaccurate results with the test. A doctor in Portsmouth was among the first to query its people tested with the faulty kits reliability when he used it on a patient he knew to have full-

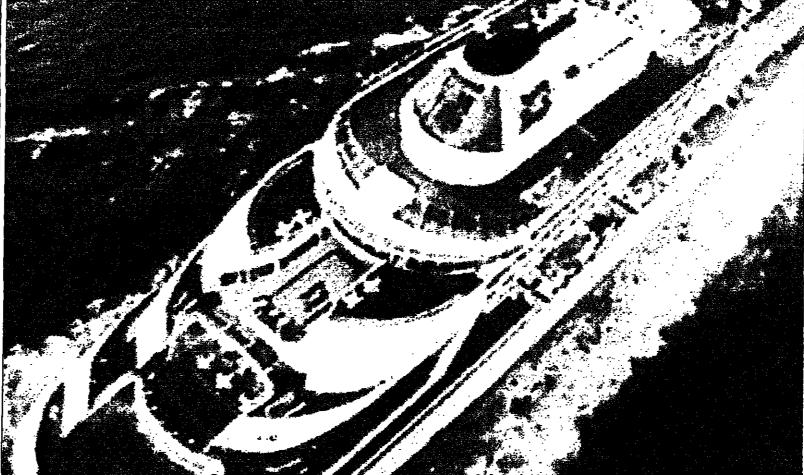
blown Aids, and the result was

negative. Professor Jangu Banatvala, of the clinical virology unit at St Thomas' Hospital, London. where 5,000 samples are already being re-tested, said that only people with a very high number of HIV antibodies were at risk of testing negative instead of positive with the IMX test. Antibody status may be related to the stage of infection, with people only recently exposed to HIV and those on the verge of

Nick Partridge, chief executive of the Terrence Higgins Trust, said anybody who was wrongly tested as negative might be able to sue Abbott Laboratories. A spokesman for one of the

London clinics which carried out the tests, at St Mary's Hospital, Praed Streetsaid: "We expect the retesting to take about one month."

Abrupt end for cruise of a lifetime as ship runs into reef



Liner accident may sink Cunard

The future of the Cunard shipas one of its most luxurious imers limped into port, ending the holiday-of-a-lifetime dreams of more than 500 passengers.

As an investigation was launched into why the 37,845-tonne Royal Viking Sun was holed after hitting a reef in the Red Sea, the company was making arrangements for the swift return home of those who had paid more than £21,000 for

the 114-day world cruise. Cunard tried desperately to limit the public relations disaster which beset its ill-fated "cruise from hell" in December 1994 when the QE2 sailed from Southampton to New York with a refurbishment incomplete. Then. Cunard managers ac-

But the accident was unfortime, coming only hours after the announcement that a £904m offer from the Norwegian company Kvaerner for Cunard's parent company Trafalgar House had been accepted by shareholders. Cunard is thought likely to be put on the market

by its new owners. No one was injured in the collision in the Strait of Tiran on Thursday, although a 73-yearold man suffering from kidney problems was airlifted to hospital for treatment.

But emergency procedures were instigated as the ship began taking on water and listing. Passengers and the 450 crew were forced to don life-jackets and go to lifeboat stations.

An operator at the international control centre in Sta-Norway, which

Vanger. controlled the rescue, said engine power was lost after the collision and pumps were used to expel the water and put the ship back on an even keel. 'It must have been rather frightening for a time," he said. The ship was towed to safe-

ty in the Egyptian port of Sharm el Sheikh. A newly-finished Marriott hotel in Sharm el Sheikh opened three days early to take more than 100 of the evacuees. Other luxury hotels, both in the port and in Cairo, were on standby to receive the passengers, of whom 54 were British, 350 American, 70 German and 27 from Asian

Pacific countries. Details were being finalised last night for their return to Europe today, where the Americans will make connecting ilights home.

The Royal Viking Sun, rated the number one cruise liner in the world by the Berlitz travel guide, has luxury facilities including cabins with whirlpools, gold and mahogany fittings, theatres, spas, butler service and

a computerised golf course. Prices for the cruise, which began in Florida on 6 January and was due to take in 36 ports including Bangkok, Mombasa, Fiji and the Seychelles, started at £21,435. But the accident will do noth-

ing to restore confidence in Cunard, coming after the QE: débàcle and an on-board fire earlier this year which forced another of its ships, the Sagafjord. out of service.

It comes as some sectors of

falling safety standards because the international regulatory body, the International Maritime Organisation.

But Walter Welch, of the Chamber of Shipping in London, said he was confident that safety procedures would be shown to have worked well with the Cunard liner. "Big passenger ships are at

sea every day carrying thousands of passengers and we rarely have a casualty," he said. Ill-fated journey, page 3

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Annie Bell prepares an Easter tea-time

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Monika Danneman, a former girlfriend of rock legend Jimi Hendrix, who only three days ago was found guilty of con-tempt in the High Court, was yesterday found dead in a fumefilled car near her Sussex home.

The apparent suicide of the German-born artist at her home in Seaford, Sussex, follows the court action brought by Kathy Etchingham, another of the rock star's girlfriends. Police discovered the body just before It was in Miss Danneman's

London flat that Hendrix was found dead from a drugs over-

many in 1968 when Miss Danneman, then an iceskating champion, saw Hendrix at a

The court case was the latest episode in a long running feud between the two women. It was brought because Miss Dan-neman, 48, had breached an undertaking that she would never repeat an allegation that Mrs Etchingham was an "inveterate liar" about her life and relationship with Hendrix. Mrs Etchingham, 49, now a doctor's wife with two teenage sons, had a 30-month relationship with Hendrix in the 1960s.

Mr Justice French said no public interest would be served by committing Miss Danne-

man to prison for contempt, or by making her pay damages after hearing she was in poor health and had little money. The judge was given medical reports about the state of both her phys-

ical and mental health.

In 1995 Miss Danneman published The Inner World of Jimi Hendrix, to coincide with the 25th anniversary of Hen-drix's death. She claimed she had been engaged to Hendrix, though this was disputed. Miss Danneman had lost an

earlier libel action when she was ordered to pay £1,000 damages and costs after libelling Mrs Etchingham. She repeated the allegations in the book. Worshipping Hendrix, page 3

Hendrix girlfriend found dead

Aids being most likely to fit this Monkia Danneman: 'Suicide'

after court defeat

Water, water everywhere – and a drop to

ROS WYNNE-JONES

Lancashire fisherman found themselves in the drink yesterday as they re-enacted scenes from the Ealing comedy Whisky Gulor: and pursued a liquid cargo that was lost six months ago

but has surfaced in the Irish Sea. Bottles of Scotch were selling for as little as £5 in the port of Fleetwood as the local population took to their boats in search of an alcoholic catch.

-The conversation round here is 'What bottles have you caught today?', not 'What fish have you caught?', said a spokesman for the Harbour said Ged Lynch, senior watch haven't had any myself. You

Control office. "It's not very good stuff, though, so I'm told." The alcoholic cargo, worth £50,000, was lost from the rollon roll-off vessel Spheroid when a 26-ton container went over-

board in October, off Drigg Point, in Cumbria. It was thought the whisky had sunk 15 fathoms below the sea, but locals say the container has broken open and currents are Customs and Excise officials dragging thousands of bottles along the seabed.
The company knew where

the cargo was lost, but they were

keeping it a secret and hoping to send a sawage team to it."

"The locals might have beaten The coastguard received calls all day vesterday from would-be salvagers checking weather conditions before heading out to

sea in the hope of a liquid catch.

Fleetwood Police said no offence was being committed. but after local radio reports that were taking a keen interest in the matter, silence fell over Fleetwood. "I've got a terrible headache," said one skipper. "I'm told the whisky is a fine blend, but the salt's got to it. I

officer at Liverpool Coastguard. won't find a skipper in Fleetwood who's touched a drop. He said scenes at the port re-

called Whisky Galore, a 1940's Ealing comedy based on the true story of the plundering of the SS Politician, which went down off the Scottish island of Barra with a cargo of Scotch. In 1990, a salvage operation was launched to rescue the underwater-matured blend.

A local poet lamented the loss of the Scotch with "The Quest For The Celtic Spirit": "With sadness we learned of the

Spheroid's message

Worse things happen at sea What could be worse than to

lose all that whisky. The poem in the Liverpool coastguard's newsletter, ends: "Any coastguard that's worth his

Is partial to a nip of Irish Malt So on patrol at weekends we go If anything's found, you'll be the last to know.



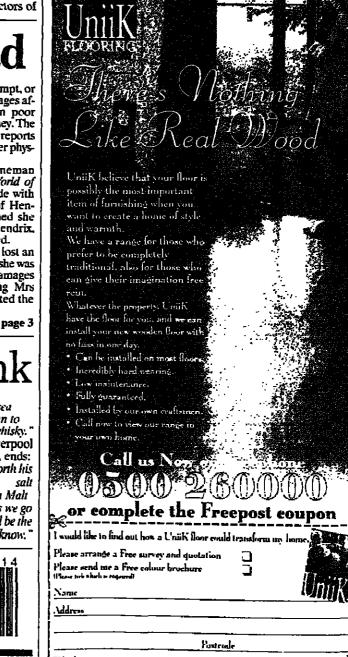
section ONE

regions.

pensation.

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Offal ban raises fears of French beef lobby

MARY DEJEVSKY **COLIN BROWN**

France has ordered the immediate withdrawal from sale of offal from cows born before August 1991, a measure that for the first time casts doubt on the soundness of its beef cattle. The ban, which covers the soinal cord, brain and sweetbread but not liver or kidneys, was contained in a statement by the Agriculture Ministry and cited advice from World Health Organisation specialists after their

meeting in Geneva this week. The ban reportedly reflects the slight possibility that French cows born before 1991 might have been given British feed containing parts from infected animals. Commentators say this is one interpretation of the WHO advice and the most conservative. Another would be that the animal parts specified may transmit the infection from one generation to the next and that all offal of this type should be withdrawn until the infection is eliminated.

Even the more conservative interpretation infuriated French specialist offal wholesalers and butchers, whose trade was already suffering from the pan-European BSE scare. They said most offal sold in France wasfrom much younger animals sumers' Association for warnand expressed fears that all of

it would now be shunned. The beef market has slumped disastrously in the past week and consumers have been thoroughly confused by mixed signals from the authorities. On one hand. France was the first to ban British beef imports and distinguished between French and British farming methods and sanitation. On the other, two beef herds in Brittany were slaughtered within days of the "mad-cow" crisis breaking behave BSE, and now certain

types of offal have been banned. Meanwhile, the threat of a British anti-EU backlash over its beef ban grew after Klaus Kinkel. Germany's Foreign Minister, said the £500m-ayear compensation for farmers hit by the BSE scare would have to be paid out of Britain's European rebate. The Treasury could thus lose £3bn over the six years the culling programme is to run, leaving Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, with a hole in his finances for his tax-cutting Budget in autumn. Britain has paid reduced EU

contributions since 1992 and compensation for the crisis would be offset against the rebate, Mr Kinkel said yesterday. "That is what agreements on contributions say: all payments by the Community which would further reduce the British net contribution have to be taken

into account." Yesterday Sir James Spicer, Tory MP for Dorset West, said McDonald's, Wimpey and Burger King outlets should be picketed for using imported beef. Farmers condemned the burger chains for switching after taking out advertisements to say British beef was safe.

Sir James said he would be happy to picket McDonald's himself, and criticised the Coning of the "unquantifiable risk" of eating British beef.

Signs are growing that consumers are regaining confidence in British beef as stores reported increased sales despite the end of last week's special offers. But some retailers reported a shortage because of the slowdown in slaughtering. Sales began to recover last weekend as supermarkets cut prices, led by Sainsbury's, which introduced a half-price offer.

Letters, page 18



Cardinal Basil Hume watches horse-drawn tableaux in an ecumenical 'procession of witness' at Westminster Abbey

posite directions on the A24. backs from around the country

Bishops speak out against 'secular' Easter

ANDREW BROWN Religious Affairs Correspondent

Two bishops yesterday protested against the secularisation of Good Friday and the Archbishop of Cauterbury, Dr George Carey, described it as

'a challenge to the Church". The Bishop of Coventry, the Rt Rev Simon Barrington the city council to treat Good the meaning of Easter is this are just a matter of council's crematorium to open

Two children and an adult died

in a car crash in Sussex yester-

day as thousands headed for the

roads in the traditional Easter

getaway. The accident involved

a van and a car travelling in op-

Friday as a normal working day, which employees could only take off as holiday. "It has to be easy for Christians to say they want to go to church and this is hard to do in the present culture," he said.

And the Bishop of Birmingham, Dr Mark Santer, said: "Jesus walked to the cross through crowds who jeered and laughed Ward, criticised the decision of at him. So nowadays if we find

Both children, who were pas-

sengers in the car, were taken

to Crawley hospital where they

were pronounced dead, along

with one adult. Two occupants

of the van were treated in hos-

After a quiet start, the usu-

al bank holiday conditions on

roads across Britain soon built

up. By lunchtime, if all the tail-

pital for minor injuries.

largely ignored, we are sharing individual choice" said Dr Santhe experience of Jesus's own

"This is still a majority Chrissolemn days in the whole of the year. It actually hurts me to see the world not noticing and

keeping it as a solemn day.

had been combined they would

have stretched more than 200

Channel tunnel and ferry

operators reported an increase

in the number of people head-

ing for the continent. Airports

were also anticipating a rise in

passengers jetting off to warmer

For those staying in Britain

spots and ski resorts.

ter. "There has to be some sort of commercial and corporate

decision to make an effort." tian country and for Christians ... In Coventry, the the city Good Friday is one of the most council defended its decision to make Good Friday a normal working day as part of a package of cuts agreed with the unions to save the city £2m a - "People have got to get away - year. Particular controversy was " from the idea that things like caused by the decision of the out the worry of a funeral next

there will not be much sunshine

but it should remain dry with

temperatures between 50 to

54F, average for the time of year.

the M6 northbound was espe-

cially heavy because of daytrip-

pers heading to popular holiday destinations. Worst hit were

sections near the Lake District

A spokesman said: "Things

AA Roadwatch said traffic on

on Good Friday for the first time, which forced priests to violate tradition and conduct 16 funerals on the day when Jesus

Gary Marshall, the council's head of bereavement services, said: "By being open on Good Friday, 16 bereaved families who lost relatives this week will be able to enjoy Easter with-

Three die in crash as holiday getaway begins Monday evening, when people

start to return home." Eurotunnel and ferry crossings to the Contment were operating at almost full capacity. More than 80,000 people are expected to have travelled through the Channel tunnel by the end

of the bank holiday, more than

double the number that took the

Eurostar train last Easter.

Spy' Britons freed in Eritrea

A British couple arrested and held for 17 days on suspicion of spying in Eritrea were released yesterday after finally convincing the authorities of their innocence. Peter Billing, 64, and his wife Shirley, 61, of Wokingham, Berkshire, left Britain in 1983 for a round-the-world yacht voyage. They were arrested at gunpoint on board their 35ft ketch Chypaeus on 19 March and taken to a military camp where they were held in a hut and feared that they might be executed. They were then flown to the capital Asmara, where they were detained in a hotel, but yesterday the Eritrean government told them they were free to leave.

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Drunken youths

Lawyers are to demand tougher sentences for three 19-year-olds who went on a drunken rampage in which a church caretaker, who died 10 days later, was beaten and kicked in an unprovoked attack. The Crown Prosecution Service confirmed that it had referred the case to Attorney General, Sir Nicholas Lyell, who can ask Appeal Court judges to review the sentences from Cardiff Crown Court. Former Cardiff High School pupils Andrew Groom and David Vodden were sent to a young offenders' centre for two years, David Willey for 18 months.

Airport rescue

A woman and her three small children were being cared for by social services officials after a cry for help at an airport. They were about to board a flight to Pakistan from Manchester airport on Thursday when the woman passed a note to a security guard claiming she and her children were being forced to leave Britain by her husband who intended to divorce her in Pakistan.

Rare serpent seen

A black adder, one of Britain's rarest reptiles, has been spotted basking in the spring warmth of a Dorset heath by Paul Morton, 13, and Matthew Sharpe, 12, both of Poole. Colin Fitzsimmons, of the British Herpetological Society, said that although the adder, Britain's only venomous snake, is widespread, it is the first time he has seen a black one in the wild in over 20 years.

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concise crossword



ACROSS

One of a pair (4) Hold tightly (5) Sea (5) 10 Falls (7) 11 Very exciting (8) 12 Cycle (4) 13 Equability of climate

Scrabble 'piece' (4) 18 American (anag) (8) 21 Immediate (7) 22 Big cat (5) 23 Jape (5) 24 Some medicine (4)

DOWN

In which place? (5) Girl in title of musical Eating human flesh (13) Tsar (4) Hard rock (7)

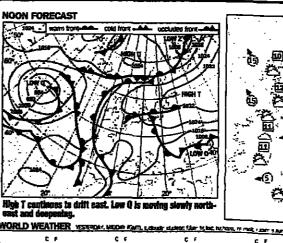
Brief time (6) Stare fixedly (4) Girl's name (7) 15 Put up (7) 16 Sparkling (6) 17 Journey (4) 19 Scotsman? (5) 20 Part of sailing ship (4)

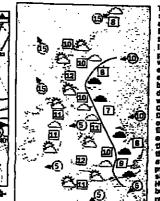
Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: Across: 1 Cavil, 4 Ear (Cavalier), 7 Balm, 8 Baronage, 9 Recolle 10 Access, 13 Embryo, 15 Back of beyond, 19 Barefoot, 20 Naif, 21 Eat, 22 Hatch, Down: 1 Cease, 2 Vamoose, 3 Label, 4 Ennui, 5 Regency, 6 Creche, 11 Cabbage, 12 Spot-on, 14 Bayonet, 16 Crest, 17 Bitch, 18 Neigh

NOTES

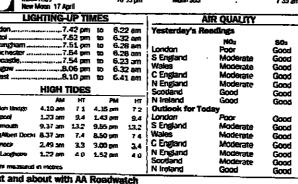
the weather

and Blackpool.









Out and about with AA Roadwatch Call 0336 481777 for size fatest forced and restorate trade; makes

Spy Britons Geed in Either

> Garth Ellis, 7, being made up by his mother Kath in the build-up to his first public appearance as a clown. Garth first went to a circus when he was three and became captivated by the idea of appearing in the ring. Tonigh: Le will make his

debut with Zippo's circus in Islington, north London, in the company of Zippo the clown, Stiffy and Tweedy, and Clown Alexis.

Zippo's, which describes itself as Europe's largest all-human circus, featuring 12 acrobats, will also be presentng horses for the first time in its 10-year history, featuring palominos.

Photograph: Geraint Lewis



On the rocks: Expensive embarrassment may seal fate of company struggling to recover credibility

Cunard image sinking fast after accident

TOM STEVENSON City Editor

The future ownership of Cunard was thrown into doubt by the holing of the Royal Viking Sun, only hours after the cruise line's parent company. Trafalgar House, had been acquired by Kvaerner, a Norwegian engi-

neering and shipping combine.
The timing of the accident could hardly have been worse for Kvaerner, which announced on Thursday morning that its Royal Viking Sun to a port for out. He was staggered by what £904m offer for Trafalgar House had been accepted by an overwhelming majority of its target's shareholders. The deal is now subject only to regulatory approval.

Kvaerner, which said yesterday it saw no reason for the deal to be jeopardised by the accident, has made no secret of its desire to sell on Cunard to recoup some of the cost of buying Trafalgar House. The Norwegian group has no interest in the engineering and construction company's non-core trophy assets, which until recently also included the Ritz hotel in London.

The accident raised questions about the ongoing value of Cunard, which has a price tag in Trafalgar House's accounts of £294m. That figure itself represented a big fall from a year earlier after a heavy writedown in its value was imposed

[©]}Agaba

SUDAN

30 miles

EGYP

following the QE2's costly "cruise from hell" in December 1994 when a bungled refit led to hundreds of passengers making successful claims for

compensation. Yesterday a spokesman for Cunard said it was too early to tell how much the latest disaster would cost the company. At this stage there are too many variables such as the cost of chartering evacuation aircraft at short notice and towing the

As well as the immediate cost, however, Thursday's accident represents a poor advertisement ahead of the proposed sale of Cunard's ageing fleet. Potential buyers, such as Britain's P&O, owner of Princess Cruises, and big rivals Royal Caribbean Cruises, Carnival Corporation and Disney. are already sceptical about the economic sense of buying old-

Modern cruise liners are more fuel-efficient, cheaper to run and gain more revenue from better on-board entertainment packages. Some observers think Cunard might have to spend \$1bn to bring its

fleet up to scratch. This latest high-profile accident is a commercial disaster for Cunard. Not only will it now face unquantifiable repair and compensation payments, its

reputation as the industry's poor relation is confirmed.

When a firm of consultants was sent into Cunard in the wake of the 1994 fiasco, it described it as "the worst-managed company we have ever looked at". It was a damning assessment of a fleet that included the QE2 and prided itself on unrivalled service.

A year ago a new chief executive. Peter Ward, was parachuted in to sort the company he found: "There weren't even any business plans. There were two dozen different ways of

making every decision.' The consultancy. Arthur D Little, sent staff to four Cunard offices in Sydney, London, Hong Kong and New York. All of them bought a ticket for the same berth on the same day and ship. Last year Cunard lost £16.4m and at least two more years of losses are forecast.

Cunard has suffered a numher of embarrassing incidents at sea in recent years. Last month the MV Sagafford drifted for four days in the South China Sea after an engine-room fire knocked out its power. While less widely reported than the OE2 fiasco, which cost £7.5m in refunds and travel credits, it was a major setback to Cunard's attempts to rebuild its tarnished image. The Royal Viking may



sick: work going on during the QE2's 'cruise to Hell' in

Journey into troubled waters

150 years, has run into troubled waters in recent years."

■ It lost £16.5m last year and chief executive Peter Ward, brought In to turn it around, said it was unlikely to break even until 1998. I In March the Norwegian Kvaemer group bid £904m for Cunard's. parent, Trafalgar House, sparking speculation that the company and

In February its cruise liner Sagafjord became becalmed in the South China Sea carrying 500 passengers. It was towed to the Philippines. after a fire in the generator room. It is to be withdrawn from service.

Last year Southampton officials condemned food hygiene on board the QE2 and threatened legal action after inspecting its Queen's Grill. ■Cunard paid £7.5m to mutinous QE2 passengers after a trip dubbed the "crulse to Hell", in December 1994. It sailed before a £30m refit was completed, leading to complaints of "exploding toilets" and debris-strewn decks.

■ US coastguards accused Cunard of risking passengers' lives and said the ship should never have been allowed to set sail. They blocked its departure from New York while essential repairs were done.

Plans for a another £15m QE2 refit were announced this week. I in 1993 Cunard was fined £1,000 and told to pay £120 after complaints that a cruise advertised as a "two-day" trip lasted only 38 hours. ■ The OE2 grounded in 1992 after striking an "unchanged" object off the eastern US. Millions of pounds were lost while repairs took the

Budget deals give boost to cruise industry

The plane-load of passengers that took off from Gatwick last night to join an Airtours ship in Tenerife have little in common with the people evacuated from the stricken Royal Viking Sun. But each end of the cruise spectrum, from budget to "fivestar plus" luxury, provides evi-dence of the boom in cruising

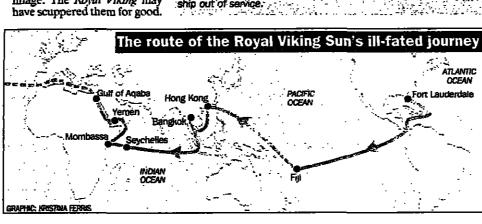
over the past year. While mainstream package summer holidays from Britain continue to suffer from bookings below tour operators' worst expectations, the cruise business last year expanded by more than 25 per cent in passenger reason is the entry of Airtours to the market, bringing lowprice, high-volume expertise to sector which had previously been the preserve of the wealthy.

Lancashire-based Airtours began cruises in the Mediterranean a year ago. Despite some initial hiccups such as the on-board beer running dry, its operation has been a success. Those Airtours passengers vis-iting the Canaries and Morocco over Easter have paid £479 each, compared with £21,500 for a world cruise on Royal Viking Sun. A much larger company, the US-based Carnival Cruise Line, has now taken a substantial holding in Airtours.

Britain's biggest tour operator, Thomson, is about to enter the cruise market with a programme mirroring Airtours' approach in Europe. The Disney Corporation has moved in

It is currently building two mega-liners in Italy, which will be based in Florida. British holidaymakers are to be offered "stay and cruise" holidays split between Walt Disney World

and a Caribbean voyage.
The more established shipping lines say they welcome the new entrants, since awareness of cruising is stimulated. Both P&O Cruises and Fred Olsen Line report strong sales. It is against this background that Cunard last year lost £16.4m.



Tragic end for the woman who worshipped Hendrix ber 1970, in Danneman's Not-

JAMES CUSICK and NICOLE VEASH

On any corner of Greenwich Village in New York or Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley, California, strains of the Sixties can usually be heard, performed by an ageing hippy and his guitar. More often than not the song is Bob Dylan's "The Times They Are A Changing." But for Monika Danneman, the archetypal rock chick and one time girlfriend of guitar legend Jimi Hendrix, time just never did change,

In the undefined mid-1990s, with youth culture struggling for an identity, the retro-fashion of the decade of Timothy Leary and the Beatles, youth protest and freedom, looks appealing.

Then Jimi Hendrix was the resident atonal, psychedelic freak; a black musician become rock hero. Eric Clapton, for some, was his white equivalent,



'domestic bliss' with Hendrix

but with one crucial difference. Eric is still alive and ageing. Now both Hendrix and his final girlfriend are gone.

Hendrix's extraordinary technique attracted a cult following. On his first tour in London, he supported the Monkees, an inRock 'n' roll death: Defeat in her court case this week may have proved too much for Monika Danneman

troupe, loved by mums and dads. massive golden serpent that German-born Monika Danneman was a champion iceskater when she met Hendrix in 1968 in a Dusseldorf bar. As chronicler of her own legend. of court for continuing a libel she claims she fell in love against another of the rock straight away. Then there was a star's women. The reality, for gap of some years before the romance was rekindled in London.

In her book, The Inner Life of Jimi Hendrix, published last vear to coincide with the 25th anniversary of Hendrix's druginduced death, the couple are described as living anything but

a life of sex, drugs, and rock'n'roll. There was apparent domestic bliss in a rented flat in Notting Hill Gate where and mother of two teenage Hendrix talked about "life and sons. death for hours". She says they

wrapped round her finger. She was wearing the ring at

the High Court last week when she was convicted of contempt those who knew Hendrix well, was that Danneman only ever occupied three weeks out of the rock hero's short life.

The woman Danneman regarded as her rival, Kathy Etchingham, was the long-standing "Foxy Lady" girlfriend of Hendrix. She has moved on from her Sixties' days, and is now the respectable wife of a doctor

Danneman in court looked dustry-invented "Take That" were engaged and she wore a the classic Sixties babe: long



with extraordinary technique

blonde feathered hair, tight black suit with bright red satin underneath, lots of rings, lots of jewellery, heavy mascara, and a mohair coat. Appearing every inch the rock star girlfriend, in her mind she remained anchored to the Hendrix legend. Hendrix died on 18 Septem-

ting Hill flat. Those who have examined the timetable of the death point to a missing five hours between Danneman's alleged first discovery of the body and the arrival of an ambulance. In 1994, the Attorney Gen-

eral Sir Nicholas Lyell reopened the file on the death. The subsequent investigation cleared Danneman of suggestions that she delayed calling the ambulance.

After Hendrix's death, she turned him into a personal religion - worshipping by painting oil pictures of him "on the astral plane" and continuing to write about him. The painting and drawings covered her house which became a shrine to lost

By the end of her life she had become a virtual recluse. She recently said: "It is a lonely life. But if I'd not met Jimi, my life would have been very ordinary."



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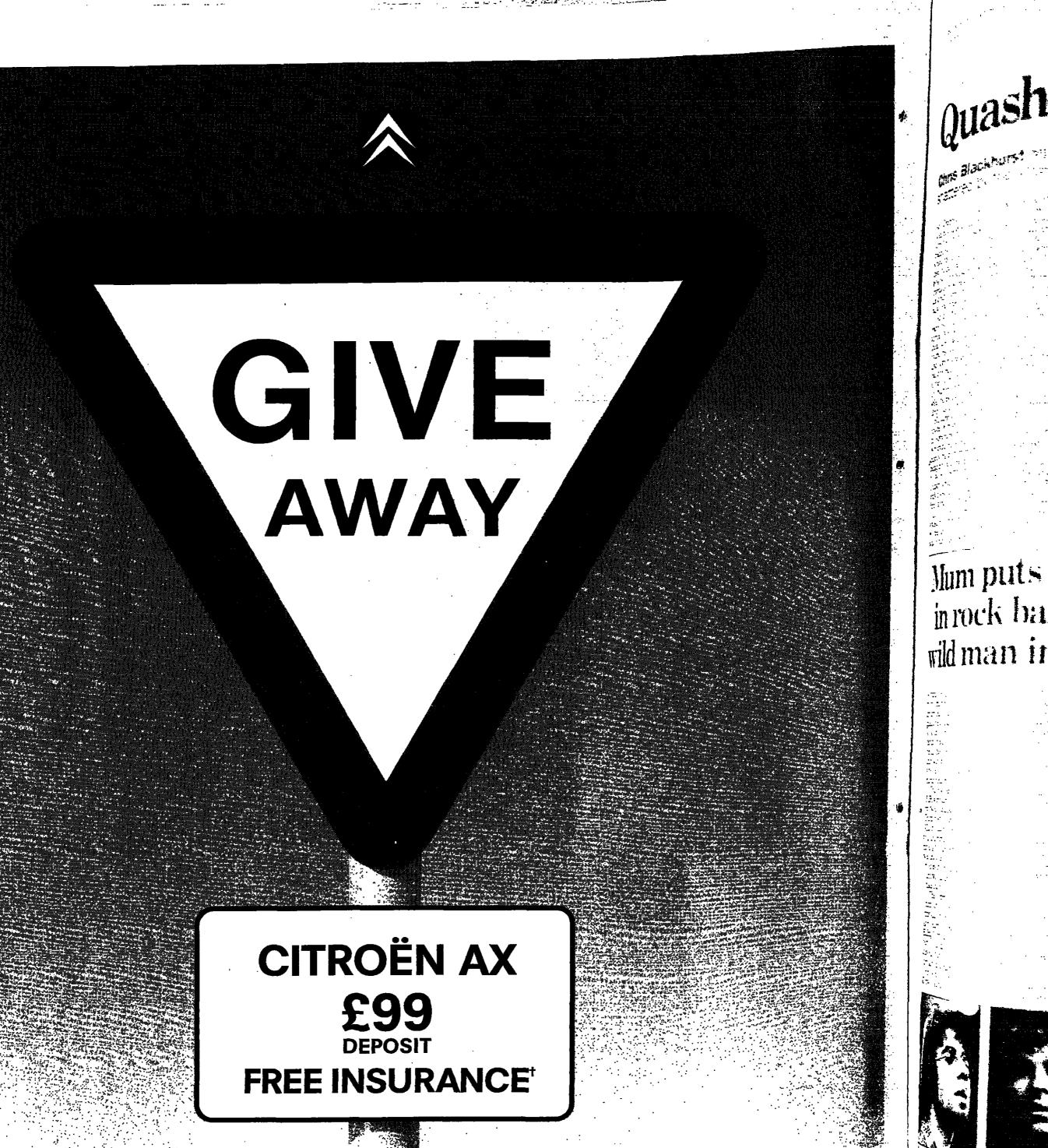
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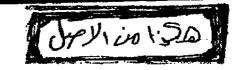
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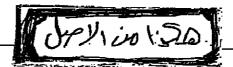


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Quashed conviction leads to fresh nightmare

Chris Blackhurst reports on a life shattered by the arms-to-Iraq affair

Ali Daghir rues the day he tims of the zeal of Customs and won his appeal against conviction for trying to send nuclear triggers to Iraq in 1994. For, while the Court of Appeal's decision, delivered after just two hours of representation and 15 minutes deliberation, brought to an end a personal nightmare, a

new one was just beginning. After having served 15 months of a five-year jail sentence, Mr Daghir, a British citizen who was born in Iraq, found his once-thriving business and family life in tatters. Without compensation he has been forced to put his house in Esher, Surrey, up for sale. His wife, the mother of his four children, has left him.

He cannot get work because of what happened and, because the Americans refuse to lift their own indictment against him, he cannot travel overseas for fear of being arrested and extradited. At 55, he is a virtual prisoner in a country which he still adores but with a system of justice he now finds hard to stomach.

Like other businessmen whose lives have been shattered by the arms-to-Iraq saga and

Excise to secure convictions, Mr Daghir is gearing up to claim damages from the Home Office. At the very least, he reckons, he is owed about £40,000 for his time in prison and £1m for the loss of business profits.

In theory, he should have a good case: Mr Daghir and his assistant, Jeanine Speckman, are the only British people to have been jailed in the whole arms-to-Iraq affair. But unlike some of the other defendants, notably Reginald Dunk, whose claim for compensation has been acknowledged by the Home Office following publication of the Scott report and whose case was highlighted in the Independent last week, Mr Daghir is on thin ground, through no fault of his own,

His difficulty is that after he was convicted in June 1991 of attempting to supply £6,000 worth of ordinary electrical capacitors and won a right to appeal after fresh evidence came to light, his conviction was actually quashed on a technicality.

Instead of hearing the new evidence — a conclusive report from the United Nations nuclear



'Sting' victim: Ali Daghir in 1991, when he was wrongly convicted of sending detonators to IraqPhotograph: Photo News Service

inspection team that the capacitors from Mr Daghir's firm, Euromac, were not the same as those intended to detonate Iraq's atomic weapons and that he had been set up in a "sting" operation — the Court of Appeal quashed his convic-

tion because the trial judge's summing-up was badly phrased. The Home Secretary only

has power to authorise compensation where new evidence is submitted showing a miscarriage of justice has occurred. In the judge's summing-up. The cases of judicial error, the Home others related to new evidence

Office recently wrote to Mr proving he was not the heinous Daghir's MP, Ian Taylor, there criminal Customs said he was. are no grounds for payment. They showed his products were Mr Daghir's tragedy is that he

not destined for Iraq's nuclear had many grounds of appeal, of bombs and that he had been the which the first handful dealt with victim of a sting by US Customs. "I wanted to clear my name," Mr Daghir said. "I did not

Outray oser withheld prosecution ex-tence: resulted in the South logistry. Henderson, it emerged, had been knobed in helping M.15 garler had mellingence. He is considering a claim for demages against a "ma-licious" prosecution attempt by

THE 'VICTIMS'

Paul Grecian, 40, was head of Ord-nance. Teichnology, (Cirtieg): He sold an inse production line to trac-inning lane. 1980s. He was letter of-quitted on appeal when it, emerged the prosecution had withheld fless showing the provided Entists sect-rity officials with information about large wor plans. Last year he was arrested by interpol Re-South Aints and is lightly rowesto extradite him. on the US on charges of conspite-ry, bank fraid and wolating arms export controls. He was convicted on striver charges in British. Registed Dunk, 70, was wringfully presecuted. 11 years ago for at-tempting to smuggle 200 Strateg sub-mactine guns to Iraq via Jor-dan, The-Home Office how accepts, is principle. It made a mistake.

The plot thickens when Mr Daghir produces a letter from Customs and Excise's legal department, dated 27 May 1993. It was sent in the run-up to the

appeal, following production of the UN report. It suggests hearing the technical grounds first, and saving the fresh, potentially embarrassing, evidence until later: "Mr Moses QC [Alan Moses, senior Customs counsel in the Matrix Churchill case] feels that all the grounds of appeal other than the question of the fresh evidence be dealt with first. If the court were to rule in the appellant's favour on any of the issues in a way that disposed of the appeal, it would be unnecessary to deal with the question of fresh evidence.

That is what happened. He was freed on a technicality, the new evidence was not heard, he has no automatic right to compensation. His solicitor, Lawrence Kormonick, is preparing a new case to per-suade the Home Office to reconsider his application. "He has been in prison for 15 months, unemployed for several years, has lost his company, cannot travel abroad and has had this hanging over him for six years," Mr Kormonick said. If his claim is contested, it

know if I went on this one I would face a struggle for comcould be years before he repensation, otherwise I would ave gone on fresh evidence." ceives any money. "I think the time has now come for him to be properly compensated for his suffering and I hope that he will not have to wait too much longer," Mr Kormonick said.

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Mum puts dent in rock band's wild man image

A burgeoning row over claims owning up generally to burby two members of the top rock group Oasis that they once burgled houses and stole car radios took an unexpected turn yesterday when their mother entered the fray to insist that they were nice thoughtful boys who, as far as she knew, had never been involved in crime.

The row began when Tory MPs were alerted to comments by Noel Gallagher, brother of Oasis co-star Liam, reported in Melody Maker. He is said to have told the paper: "What people have got to understand is that we are lads. We have burgled houses and nicked car stereos. and we like girls and swear and take the piss.

number of Tory MPs who pressed for a police investigation. Harry Greenway, MP for Ealing North, said: "If the members of this group mean what they say then it is a matter for very serious concern."

Conwy, added: "If they are tongue-in-cheek."

gling, perhaps they would help the police by letting them know which houses and which premises they burgled."

Police agreed to investigate the reports, but then the Gallaghers' image as the wild men of rock took a deeply embarrassing twist, by courtesy of

Margaret Gallagher insisted that, despite their outrageous claims, they were just a couple of nice boys who loved their mum. She also claimed that she would have known if they had been involved in crime as they had lived at home with her -Noel until he was 23. "As far as I know they were never invoivea m any crime at aii. I de were just normal boys growing up," she told BBC Radio 4's World at One programme.

A spokesman for Oasis's record company. Creation, said: "We think it's a bit of a storm in a teacup. The chances are Sir Wyn Roberts, MP for Noel's original comments were





Liam (left) and Noel Gallagher: No truth, their mother says in the 'life of crime' claims that infuriated Tory MPs

D'Oyly Carte may find home on Tyne

COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

Gilbert and Sullivan may soon be added to coal, the Metro-Centre, five bridges over the Tyne, and Kevin Keegan's United on the list of things that New-

castle is famous for. D'Oyly Carte, the worldfamous operatic company dedicated to the popular work of Gilbert and Sullivan, is considering settling down on Tyneside following the offer by a local businessman for support for a

permanent home in the city. A spokesman for D'Oyly Carte said Tynesiders had a love of Gilbert and Sullivan almost second to none in Britain. "Newcastle is one of our best venues and the public do support us up there. It is one of the top tour dates with Plymouth.

Wolverhampton and Norwich. "In the North-east there is a real culture of amateurs that has generated the interest."

The company formed by Richard D'Oyly Carte is based in Birmingham, but its five-year contract ran out in December 1995 and it is currently negotiating for an extension to stay in Birmingham or transfer to a

new home in Newcastle. The company's natural home was the Savoy Theatre in the

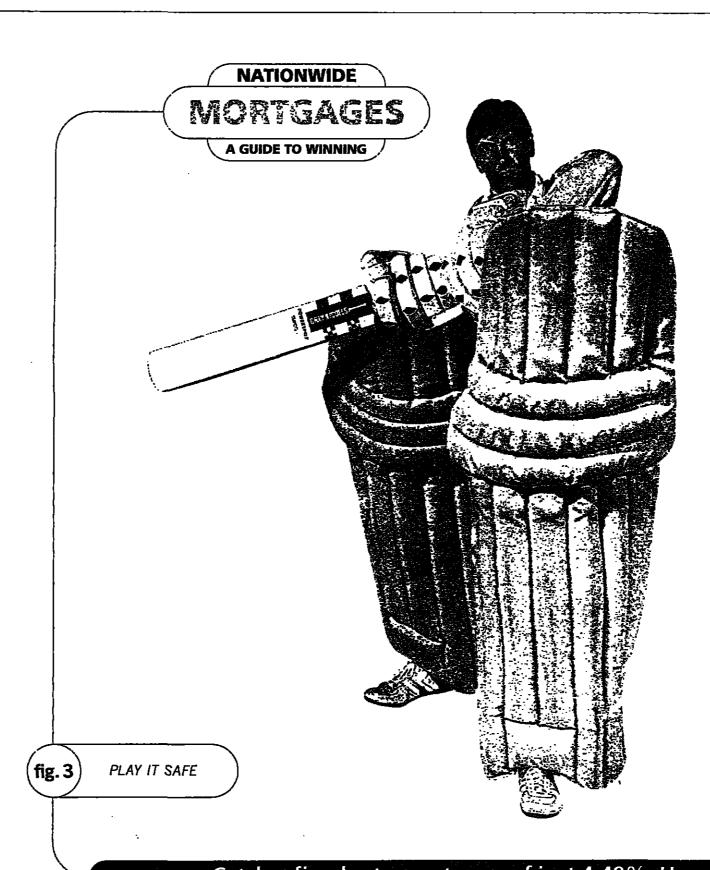
Strand, London, built by Richard D'Oyly Carte on the proceeds of the Mikado, but D'Oyly Carte folded in 1982, when the public was more interested in rock musicals, such

as Godspell and Hair. The D'Oyly Carte company was revived in 1988 with a bequest of £1m by a member of the D'Ovly Carte family.

There are detailed negotiations about an opera house in Newcastle to be resolved, but the city council there has pledged support and there is the possibility of funding from the National Lottery in the future, if the National Lottery Act is changed to allow privatelyowned buildings to receive lot-

tery cash. Virginia Bottomley, the Secretary of State for National Heritage, disclosed the possibility that D'Oyly Carte could be found a permanent home in Newcastle when she was pressed to help at a meeting of the Commons National Her-

itage Select Committee. Toby Jessel, the Tory MP for Twickenham and an accomplished pianist, called on Mrs Bottomley to help preserve Gilbert and Sullivan's music which he said was as much a part of British culture as roast



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Docklands blast: Victims beset by damage to property and rehousing still to receive any financial help or trauma counselling



Bomb families face compensation fight

ROS WYNNE-JONES

Families whose homes were badly damaged by the Docklands bomb in February have received nocompensation and many have received no counselling for the trauma they suffered.

There is no form of official compensation for people who lose property in a bomb explosion in Britain. Few of the families living on the Isle of Dogs, close to the South Quay blast, had insurance policies.

Some families have been offered loans from the Govemment's Social Fund, but many have been unable to take them up because they cannot afford the repayments.

Eight weeks after the bombing, rehoused families say their children are having nightmares

and are having to live in homes without carpets and curtains. Elizabeth Holdgate, 26, a single mother with four children

under the age of five, was re-housed after the bomb. Miss Holdgate said her flat had been badly damaged in the blast. She could not afford insurance, and now lives in a flat without carpets, wallpaper or curtains and little furniture.

The windows of her flat were blown in by the bomb, except the living-room where Miss Holdgate was sitting with her baby, then four months old. Her other children, aged two, four and five, were playing on the stairs. They could so easily have been killed," she said.

"Prince Charles came and saw us and someone from the Government said they would

look after us," she says. "I had just moved into the flat after waiting five years for a council house. I started trying to get compensation, but it took so long I couldn't wait. I've got young children and a baby and

I don't have much money. She gets just £75 a week from the state and was forced to turn to a loan shark to help pay for her damaged curtains. "A man came round and offered me some money ... about £200. I

pay him money every week."

She said she would like counselling for her children, particularly her five-year-old daughter who has night reason. daughter who has nightmares. "Last night she was screaming, saying a big plane was crashing into the house."

A spokeswoman for the De-

pensation scheme for bomb victims. They could try ... the Social Fund or the criminal injuries compensation board."

Tower Hamlets council estimates that the the bomb, which also damaged a school and caused structural damage to hundreds of homes, will cost it around £1m. The Government has yet to decide where this

money is to come from. Nick Raynsford, Labour's London spokesman, said it had been suggested that the council's costs would be covered by the Bellwin scheme, set up to cover unexpected events. However, there were drawbacks because the council had not been able to afford insurance for the area, which is close to Dock-

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Hard-up are denied Social Fund grant

The Docklands bomb in February badly damaged Lantern House, a block of council flats on the Barkantine Estate, close

to the blast at South Quay.
All 80 flats, including Miss
Holdgate's, were evacuated on the Tuesday after the bombing, as John Gummer, Secretary of State for the Environment, began a visit to Docklands to see the devastation. The Prince of Wales also visited the area.

front of the block and 70 per of social security benefits. In one cent at the back were found to have been blown out. Structural engineers later served a "dangerous structure notice" on 17 flats in Lantern House, after internal walls were "fractured" after being shifted by the force.

Tower Hamlets council has replaced windows and window frames, although the block was uninsured because of the high premiums demanded by its proxmity to the Docklands commercial district. However, the force of the blast also damaged personal property, with families already repaying loans or they know they can't afford the

reporting that curtains, bedspreads, furniture and floor-

ings were damaged by flying Of the 17 rehoused, eight

applied to the Social Fund, the government's fund for "easing exceptional pressures on a person and his family", for a grant to furbish their new houses. All were turned down and instead Half of the windows at the offered a loan to be repaid out case, instalments required were £30 per week out of social security benefits of £150 per week, where a couple had three children to support.

Stephen Molyneaux, a Tower Hamlets councillor, said: "The families from Lantern House are really just the tip of an iceberg. There were over 550 families affected by the blast ...

"I know of many families who haven't applied to the Social Fund because they are

I am worrying about how I can survive'

Shafiqui Rahman, 61, was among those evacuated after the blast and rehoused in east London. He and his wife, Khatun, have four children still living at home. Mr Rahman, who is retired, had lived at Lantern

tired, had lived at Lantern House for several years and had decorated every room in the flat. He applied to the Social Fund for a grant of nearly £5,000, which he estimated he had spent in refurbishment. His application was turned down but he was given a loan for £050 for "high priority for £959 for "high priority needs", which he is to pay off at £28.50 per week out of his

"I am worrying about how I can survive," he said. "The children are still very upset. My daughter had to stay off school today because she was very up- tains or adequate furniture.

CASE STUDIES set by a nightmare and we didn't

know what to do with her." A single mother with six children lost carpets, washing machine, Christmas presents, curtains, bookshelves and lampshades. Her children have had to change schools because of the

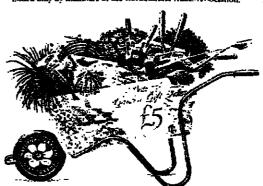
distance from their old school. They wake up in the night and burst out crying," she said She receives £104 social security benefit and is paying £13 per took out when she moved to Lantern House. Told she would receive a loan rather than a grant for the bomb damage, she decided she could not afford further repayments. She lives in a bare flat without carpet, cur-

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Inquiry into Celtic sex abuse claims

Detectives were called in to investigate allegations of sexual abuse on young players at Celtic Football Club, it was confirmed last night. Strathclyde Police said a senior detective led an investigation at the club and inquiries were now complete.

A spokeswoman said: "We can confirm that an inquiry has taken place into allegations of sexual abuse of young players at Celtic Football Club. However, these allegations have not been substantiated. No report has been forwarded to the procurator fiscal."

It is understood several players and officials at Celtic, both in the boys' team and senior club, were interviewed as part of the investigation.

According to reports yesterday, the police were called in by Celtic chief Fergus McCann after an internal investigation at the club into allegations of abuse during a boys' club tournament in the United States. It was also reported that further allegations surrounding the boys club have been made

over the past few years. In a statement last night, Mr McCann said of the police investigation: "This matter is not currently affecting Celtic FC. Since the change of control at Celtic Park, complaints were made regarding an alleged incident in New Jersey in 1991 in-volving Celtic Boys' Club. Following the Boys' Club's return to Britain one of its officials resigned ... the matter was referred by the club to Strathclyde Police for investigation."

Solicitor moves to oust Law Society leaders

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES Legal Affairs Editor

75 members of the Law Society's ruling council out of office will take place next week. The move, the latest blow to a factionriven profession, comes from a Bournemouth solicitor, John Edge, who has been leading a campaign to bring back scale fees

for house conveyancing.

Mr Edge has obtained a legal opinion from a leading QC, Michael Beloff, advising that a special general meeting, which could be forced by just 100 of the society's 66,000 solicitors, could change the organisation's by-laws to bring to an end the term of office of all or any of the members of the council.

The development is a further manifestation of the turmoil within the profession heralded by the surprise election of the anti-establishment Martin Mears as the society's president

last summer. Mr Mears has set about dismantling the society's liberal image and has pledged himself to the cause of boosting the incomes of smaller solicitors' firms struggling to make a living on cut-price conveyancing during a property slump. But he and the society's vice-president. Robert Sayer have encountered deep resistance within the council.



Martin Mears: Pledged to boost small firms' incomes

Mr Edge has taken the reform agenda further, garnering support for a campaign for the reinstatement of scale fees, which were abolished in the early Seventies, and has used cash from a fighting fund to pay for Mr Beloff's opinion.

He has also thrown down another, separate, gauntlet by set-ting up with the council member Anthony Bogan a Solicitors Association with the aim of taking charge of the society's "trade union" function. The pair claim that whenever there is a conflict of interest between this and the society's regulatory role, the regulatory role always wins.

According to the society, the process Mr Edge plans to ini-

tiate next week could take two meetings, one to change the rules and another to vote on removing the council members from office. A fifth of the members at either meeting could also call for a postal ballot of the entire profession.

The process is not expected to be completed by the time of this summer's council elections, but since no candidates to oppose Mr Mears and Mr Sayer for the two top jobs have yet declared themselves, the momentum for change is unlikely to wane.

Mr Edge, who is angered by the fact that all but nine of the present council members were elected unopposed, claims that he and his supporters would win "hands down" in a postal ballot because rank and file solicitors have lost confidence in the ability of the society to represent them.

Even if they won, however, questionable whether scale fees, a retail price maintenance mechanism, could legally be reintroduced. Any change in solicitors' rules to bring them back would have to be shown to be in the public interest before the Office of Fair Trading would approve them. The Master of the Rolls, Lord Bingham, would also have to give his approval. The society believes the ar-

Leading article, page 18

Three-wheeler's rescue comes just as Tokyo unveils potential rival



Reliant Robin finds a saviour

WILL BENNETT

The Reliant Robin, nicknamed the Plastic Pig and for years an endless source of jokes for comedians, will soon be back in full production in Britain after the company was bought for more than

£300,000 by a former Jaguar there is no reason why it should

It is the third attempt to secure the future of the Reliant company, which collapsed with debts of about £1.5m last December. Its new saviour is Jonathan Heynes, who spent 25 years with Jaguar producing uxury cars .

Yesterday, Mr Heynes said that he would take on between 50 and 90 people, many of them former workers at the Reliant factory in Tamworth. Staffordshire, and promised a future for the fibreglass threewheel vehicles.

"It took a lot of careful thought before bidding for the Tamworth. company and I am going into this with the ambition of mak-

ing Reliant a profit-making company," said Mr Heynes. "The skeleton staff of 12 will continue for the moment. I will be going in to speak to them after the Bank Holiday and then we will be speaking to former workers with a view to getting them back in. Reliant produces a good-quality product and

not be successful again.

Reliant has been in financial difficulties for five years and went into receivership in 1990 when it was taken over by Beans Industries. In 1994 the receivers were called in again after the firm suffered £2m of bad

Avonex bought the firm in January 1995 but by December of that year Reliant was about £2m in debt and was forced to lay off 100 workers and call in the administrators. The company said that it had never recovered from the cost of moving equipment to

Although Mr Heynes's bid is thought to have been about £30,000 less than a rival one, the administrators regarded it as the best overall deal. He has purchased the British rights to produce the Robin and other Reliant vehicles while the overseas rights have been sold to an Indonesian businessman for

Kevin Murphy, of the ad- Fools and Horses.

ministrators Finn Associates, said: "We are very pleased and we think we have a good deal for the creditors. It means that the future for Reliant in south Staffordshire is secure and it is good news for jobs."

Asked whether creditors would get their money back, Mr Heynes said: "Certainly the preferential creditors, I believe, will be seeing the majority of their money back. At the moment we are not quite so sure about unsecured creditors."

Mr Heynes started with Jaguar in 1964 as an apprentice and spent 25 years with them before setting up his own busi-ness. That was sold in 1990 and he returned to South Africa, where he had previously worked for Jaguar, to start an-

other company.

About 44,000 people own Reliant Robins in Britain, many of them keen members of owners' clubs. The car achieved television fame as the chosen mode of transport of Del Boy in BBC1's comedy series Only



w start: Jonathan Heynes with a Reliant Robin in Tamworth yesterday Photograph: Dan Chung

Teachers plot hostile. return for Shephard

GOUL HINDUL Education Editor

Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, will face protests from angry teachers when she addresses the

biggest teachers' union today. Left-wing groups are advis-ing their members to sit in "stony silence" during the speech by Mrs Shephard, the first Secretary of State to speak to a National Union of Teach-

ers' Conference for 16 years. The most militant delegates, including those who mobbed David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman, last year, may walk out of the Cardiff con-

Carole Regan, the incoming president, and a member of the hard left", said she regretted the union executive decision to invite Mrs. Shephard. "I don't think we should be inviting people who have destroyed education in the way the Government has done.

Teachers are furious about Mrs. Shephard's decision to publish league tables for primary schools and to give into pressure from the Prime Min-

ister for more grammar schools. Mark Carlisle, the last Secretary of State for Education to address the conference, was booed off the platform.

Doug McAvoy, the union's delegates will receive her in an general secretary, said the executive had invited Mrs Shephard. Mr Blunkett and Don Foster, the Liberal Democrats education spokesman, to give them an opportunity to explain their views before the general

election.
"It would demonstrate a weakness in the union to listen only to those it nearly agrees with," Mr McAvoy said.

Mrs Regan, a member of the socialist Teachers' Alliance, said she thought that "stony silence" was the best way to receive the Secretary of State. She urged Militant not to disrupt Mrs. Shephard's 20-minute speech.

At last year's conference in Blackpool, protesters jostled and threatened Mr. Blunkett and pinned him in a small room while they shouted slogans outside. None of the protesters have been expelled from the union and most are expected to

be present this year.

Mrs. Regan said: "I hope the people involved have learnt their lesson. They didn't get very much from it and were admonished by the majority of union members."

Mr McAvoy said Mrs. Shephard could not expect a warm welcome, particularly after her U-turn on primary school league tables. He said: "I hope

appropriate way having regard to the fact that it is the NUT which is on show and not indi-vidual delegates."

He said he also hoped that Mr Blunkett, who will address the conference tomorrow would be received appropriately. Splits between delegates and the leadership will surface again

on Monday when the conference debates the executive's proposal to give all members a vote on important policy issues Local associations would have to ballot all members before sending motions to con-

decisions would have to be ratified by ballot. At present, the conference is the union's policy-making body. Union leaders are proposing the changes after the left inflicted

a series of defeats on the executive at last year's conference. Conference motions calling for a one-day strike over class size and a special conference on salaries were overturned by a

ballot of members. Members have also been halloted on one-member-one-vote. Mr McAvoy said: "In every area members have voted to extend democracy in the way the executive have suggested. If conference rejects that, it will be rejecting the views of members.



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£950 death payment for firefighter unchanged BARRIE CLEMENT

Sav 10th

The Government has refused to increase the £950 lump sum received by the parents of the heroine Fleur Lombard, the first female firefighter to be killed on active duty in Britain.

Despite protests from the Fire Brigades Union, the Home Office has decided not to change the system under which a small "death grant" is available to bereaved parents.

The firefighter, 21, was killed in February when the roof of a Co-op store in Bristol collapsed as she went in to see if shoppers were trapped. Her family has set up a trust fund for the rehabilitation of firefighters in her name.

The decision by ministers also means that the common law wife of the Gwent firefighter Kevin Lane, who died fighting a fire two days earlier, will not receive a pension. Although she was the



son, they were not married and she therefore does not qualify to receive the benefit.

The wife of a colleague, Stephen Griffin, who died in the same blaze in February, will receive full pension rights. Both men had entered a blazing house at Blaina believing that a child was trapped inside. Ken Cameron, leader of the

firefighters' union, denounced the decision as "miserly and unfeeling". Referring to expressions of sympathy by John Major after the deaths, Mr Cameron said: "So much for the fine words of the Prime Minister when the 'selfless bravery' he refers to is rewarded in a manner which is more suited to the last century.

Ministers have told the joint pension committee for the fire service that proposals to change the system so that relatives other than wives and husbands can benefit from pensions, "should not be taken any further".

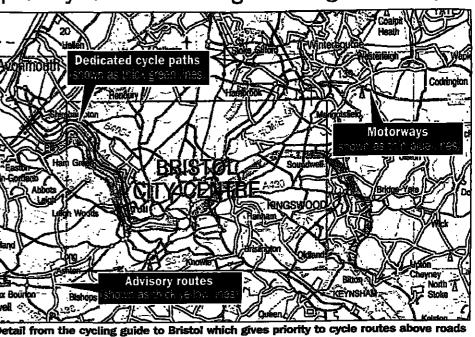
A separate compensation scheme administered by a joint paid the £950 to Ms Lombard's parents. This scheme recognises common law wives so that both the partners of the Gwent firefighters will receive £85,000. In a letter to Mr Cameron, Baroness Blatch, Home Office

minister, said the firefighters' pension arrangements were generous compared private-sector schemes.

Cycle guides: Computer techniques used to highlight pathways and cash in on growth in 'green' transport



Fast track: Cyclists on the Bristol to Bath cycle route



Redrawn maps put age of the car into reverse

Transport Correspondent

The first in a series of local maps, based on the Ordnance Survey series and specially deigned for cyclists, has been published in an attempt to cash in on the growth of interest in en-vironmentally friendly forms of transport.

In a reversal of priorities which will give any motorist mistakenly using them apoplexy, the maps give prominence to the best routes for cyclists. Therefore, the thick green splurge running from Bath to Bristol dominates the map as it shows the pioneering cycle path built by Sustrans, the group now developing the 6,500-mile national cycle network. But in contrast the M5 and M4 motorways are almost invisible thin blue lines, because they are as use-

less to cyclists - who are barred from them - as the canal towpaths are to juggernauts. It is the first time the Ordnance Survey has used the sophistication of its computer mapping techniques

As Martin Whitfield, who has devised the maps, said: "Britain is criss-crossed with an abundance of byways and lanes on which cyclists should be able to avoid the worst of the traffic. With normal maps, they might well not see what the best route is.

Mr Whitfield researches all the routes on his bicycle before working with the Ordnance Survey to produce the maps to his requirements. He says: "It takes about 300 to 400 miles' cycling to cover the area of one map. I received a lot of suggestions on the best local cycling routes from local cyclists, and

His work took about three weeks of cycling round the area: "You can't do lots of miles every day because of having to stop and make notes."

The first map covers Bristol, while those for Oxford and East Kent are in production and should be published next month, although a theft of computer chips at the Ordnance Survey's Southampton HQ may delay production. Future maps will show the planned Sustrans network across the country and Mr Whitfield is confident there is a big market for his maps: "Interest in cycling is growing, with more cycle paths and cycle routes being developed. ☐ Bristol cycling map, from CycleCity Guides, 3/4 Zig/Zag,

MPs back Redwood's return

Chief Political Correspondent

John Major is being urged to bring John Redwood back into his Cabinet by senior Conservative right-wing MPs as part of a Cabinet shake-up to sharpen the party's campaign for the general election.

Major for the leadership - to be given a Cabinet post is coming from some of the officers of the 1922 Committee of backbench MPs, which advises Mr Major on backbench opinion.

David Maclean, a right-wing Home Office minister, and David Curry, a hard-hitting inet. Bringing the former Sec-left-of-centre local government retary of Wales back into the damentally loyal to the party.

minister, are also being urged Cabinet would be a high-risk on Mr Major for promotion to

Douglas Hogg is fighting for his career as Minister of Agriculture after criticism of his handling of the European Union negotiations on beef. Mr Major has protected him from backif Mr Hogg is sacrificed.

Mr Maclean was offered the agriculture post in the last reshuffle, but turned it down to stay at the Home Office.

The Prime Minister has privately made it clear he intends to resist the pressure for Mr Redwood to return to the Cab-

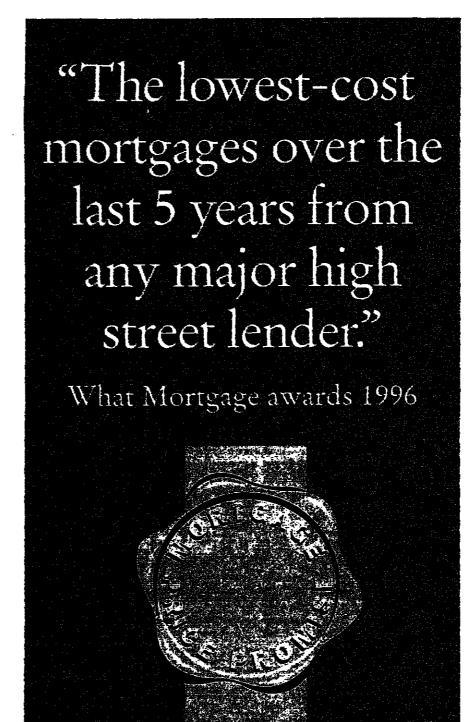
policy, resurrecting the criticism that Mr Redwood made of Mr Major during the leadership

The MPs believe that Mr Redwood would be able to give the Cabinet a more right-wing appeal, particularly if he was givbench sniping, but Mr Maclean en the post at the Treasury in is seen as the best replacement charge of reducing public exenditure currently held by William Waldegrave, who survived the Scott inquiry report.

Since going on to the back-benches, Mr Redwood had built up a following outside West-minster and shown himself capable of out-playing right-wing competitors, such as Michael Portillo, while remaining fun-



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news

Mountain deaths: Avalanche victim is named as Easter weekend walkers get safety warning

MP renews call for climbers to have insurance

STEPHEN GOODWIN

A climber who fell 1,000ft to his death in an avalanche in the Scottish Highlands was named yesterday as campaigners renewed their calls to get climbers to take out rescue insurance.

Kevin Wilson, a 42-year-old plumber from Acomb in York. was climbing on Creag Mea-gaidh, Kinlochlaggan, on Thurs-day when he is believed to have been swept off a ledge near the summit of Pumpkin Route.

His companion, Richard Harrison, 32, a company director, of Dringhouses, York, suf-fered an ankle injury and was carried off the mountain by members of Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team.

The Scottish Office yesterday issued a warning to climbers and walkers to take extra care this weekend as most peaks are still covered in snow and affected by icy winds and blizzards.

Mr Wilson's death in the mountains - the seventh climbing death this winter - has led to renewed calls for climbers and hillwalkers to have com-

pulsory rescue insurance. The Labour MP Bill Walker, an ardent campaigner, said "it seems only logical that the user now. should pay and not the taxpay-er". Mr Walker, whose Tayside North constituency includes a large slice of the Grampian rescued. It guarantees you will be capable of meeting the cost."

He envisages money passing from the rescued climbers' insurers to the Exchequer and back to the police and helicopter services. In Scotland, there are some 900 volunteers in 24 civilian teams, plus two RAF teams. RAF or Navy helicopters are probably would not be purinvolved in some 60 per cent of

Mr Walker says volunteers in no longer be taken for granted. the rescue teams would not be working alongside anyone paid any more than now, but the taxpayer would be spared some of the cost and rescue facilities could be improved.

However, the Mountaineer-

ing Council for Scotland has

told the committee that search

and rescue provision is peculiar to the terrain of each country.

In Scotland it often means pro-

tracted searches across wild

land in poor visibility where

teams of volunteers are the

Mountaineering groups in England and Wales have also

protested to the select com-

mittee over any move to intro-

Doug Scott, vice-president of the British Mountaineering

Council, regards it as a knee-

jerk reaction reaction by "mis-

guided and alarmist" politicians.

our lives to the full, we must

never allow our freedom of

choice to be narrowed, whether

it be by government agencies or

commercial insurance compa-

nies," Mr Scott said.

"As climbers, if we are to live

duce compulsory insurance.

only practical means.

However, many volunteers are fiercely opposed to any commercial intrusion and the military helicopter crews value

the "live" training. But Mr Walker's campaign has been given a new platform. The Scottish Affairs Select Committee has opened an inquiry into the mountain rescue service, with insurance one of the key issues. Announcing its inquiry, the committee declared 1993 to be "the worst year on record, rescue teams saved 317 lives but 62 were lost". Last year

there were 34 fatalities. Alfie Ingram, secretary of the Mountain Rescue Committee for Scotland, is contemptuous of MPs wasting taxpayers' mon-ey on the inquiry. The present system works well and is very

cost-effective," he said.
"The whole insurance thing has been pointed out to be to totally inappropriate to the British scene. I was hoping they had rather seen the light by

Most climbers and walkers do take out insurance when they go abroad. The basic rescue and medical cover offered by the mountains, added: "Insurance British Mountaineering Coundoesn't guarantee you will be cil costs £44 for up to 17 days or £97 for a year.

Whether any charge is levied varies widely. In the Swiss Alps a helicopter pick-up would trigger a bill of typically £2,500 and the climber is unlikely to get out of the country without paying. In France and Italy there might be bill but you sued. And in Austria free rescue used to be the norm but can

Scottish Highlands casualty list

Seven people have fallet to their death in the Highlands this year:

1. Kevin Wisson, A2 fell 3000 ff from Craig Mediald

2. Fraser Ross, 17-a schoolboy, fell 250ff from Sgurr, nar Gillean, or the site of Skye

3. The Dutch climber lacobus ven Herc fell 900ff at the Observatory Gulf or Ben News

4. Paul Bell, 36, fell 1,000ff from Castle Ridgs, Ben News

5. A Frenchman, Allain Fretet, 34, fell 400-ff from Castle Ridge, Ben News

Castle-Ridge, Ben News

Castle Ridge, Bon Neyls 6. Cam Wilsen, 22, fell 6000, from Sgarr dan Gilledo 7. Paul Potter, 42, from Syntey fell 2800 ft from Aonth Dudh

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Tory defector told to expect no favours

COLIN BROWN

Chief Political Correspondent

Labour leaders said last night they would not intervene to ensure that the Tory defector. Alan Howarth, was given a safe Labour seat in South York-

Senior Labour sources said it was not within their gift to force a candidate on the Wentworth constituency and strong-ly denied trying to ease Mr Howarth's passage into the seat, which has a 22,440 ma-

Local activists protested af-ter Mr Howarth threw his hat into the ring for the Went-

Local party leaders suspected he was putting his name forward with leadership backing, but the row is almost certain to nean he will not now be selected for the seat.

However, he is a highly rated asset by Tony Blair in the campaign for the general elec-tion, and the leadership must be hoping that another Labour constituency will come forward to give Mr Howarth a home.

The former Conservative MP for Stratford-upon-Avon seat was used by Labour last week to try to persuade more wavering Tory voters in the Stafford-shire South East by-election to swing behind the Labour Par-

A consistent critic of the Government on social policy, Mr Howarth is widely respected in the Commons, but he may have to retire from Westminster, if he does not win a seat. Unlike Emma Nicholson, the Tory MP who defected to the Liberal Democrats, he is also rated by

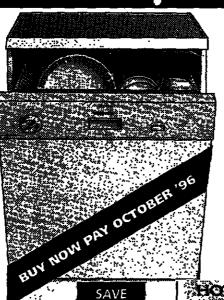
Conservative MPs. Under party rules, the National Executive Committee could only impose a candidate if there was a dispute, which was not the case in the Wentworth

constituency. If there was a constituency without a candidate when a general election was called, the NEC could impose a shortlist, although the final choice rests with the local party.



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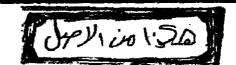
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Gentleman hermit with bombs on brain

TIM CORNWELL Missoula, Montana

Six years ago Joey Youdarian knocked on the door of a remote hillside cabin with a census form in his hand.

three hours with the man in the cabin as he jotted down the formal answers on his age, income and employment. Mr Youdarian, a Vietnam veteran, remembers a single room about 15sq ft, a wood-burning stove. a bunk bed, and the two volumes in a stack of books that caught his eye: Shakespeare and Thackeray. The conversation ran from Vietnam to the vegetables that Ted Kaczynski was testing in his garden. He was quiet, polite, well spoken, quite articulate. He didn't seem like a radical or anything." said Mr Youdarian, "Somebody that had found a way of life that they enjoyed, that didn't have to worry about people bothering them, just getting away from the pressures of life."

Mr Kaczynski was held in a Montana jail yesterday charged with possessing components of a bomb while agents from the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms contin- connection with any of the atued sifting through his sparse tacks. Bombs were sent to unihome. For Mr Kaczynski is thought to be the Unabomber, the man who, for 18 years, hyp-

notised America with a series of

bombings across the country.
Investigators now believe that one of two manual typewriters found there may match the manuscript of the Unabomber's rambling 35,000-word mani-He sat and talked for nearly festo and letters sent to the US press. Officials said they had all been typed on the same machine, apparently to prove their authenticity. Fearing booby traps, explosive experts were Xraying everything in the cabin before they touched it, an FBI source said. But they have already found a partially assem-bled pipe bomb, and 10 binders full of writings and sketchings of bombs with logs of apparent

> documents. There were books on electrical circuitry and chemistry along with pipes of galvanised metal, copper, and plastic, and chemical ingredients for bombs. But it was the typewriter that

> offered the first substantial link to a string of bombings over two decades that have wounded 23 people and killed three.

Agents waited yesterday for the results of a laboratory analysis on the machine. Mr Kaczynski has not been charged in versity professors, airline company chiefs, and others that the Unabomber singled out for

leading the hi-tech revolution he viewed as an assault on personal freedom and "a disaster for the human race".

His personal history bears an uncanny resemblance to the suspect's profile drawn up by the FBl. White, male, and aged 53, a highly intelligent, Harvard-educated mathematician, he dropped out of a teaching job at the University of California at Berkeley to scrape a living in a remote hideaway. But neigh-bours in the small town of Lincoln, Montana, stuck stubbornly yesterday to their memories of

a gentlemanly hermit. "I don't believe it," said Irene Preston, 84, who played experiments, according to court pinochle [a card game] regularly-with Mr Kaczynski in the 1970s, soon after he first moved to Montana.

He helped her collect wood after her boyfriend died, she

"He was always good with us, he never spoke out of place, never hollered." Mr Kaczynski had lived in Lincoln since 1971, neighbours said, but it was only 10 or 12 years ago that he bought his land about four miles outside the town of about

1,000 people. He built the cabin himself. It was about two hundred yards off a partially paved mountain road, and had no running wacatching the Greyhound bus on his way to visits home to Chicago, though his mother later moved to New York. He is thought to have spent

time in Salt Lake City, where one bomb was found in a university classroom in 1981 and another exploded behind a computer store in 1987. But he appeared in town in all weathers riding a rickety bike. He hitched lifts to Helena, the state capital 40 miles away, with the Lincoln Stage, the mail delivery truck. "He'd go

Yesterday Mr Kaczynski was under a suicide watch in Helena's Lewis and Clark County Jail, Mr Youdarian, in 1990, is the only person that locals say was ever invited inside the cabin. By that time the Unabomber is said to have carried out 13 attacks that had killed one person and seriously injured several others, but Mr Kaczynski talked mostly about saving carrots and cabbages from the frosts. While

there and pay his taxes and do the business he had to do, Dick Lundberg, a driver, said. "I've known him for at least 20 years and he gave no indication of having adverse feelings against

Under guard: Theodore Kaczynski is escorted into a federal court în Montana "He said we shouldn't have been in Vietnam, but he didn't get carried away or anything," said Mr Youdarian, who runs a he looked like he cut his own small beef jerky business. "It was hair, he was much cleaner than real interesting to talk to him. the unkempt, bleary-eyed sus-He lived up there alone, but he didn't seem lonely."

The FBI began its surveillance of Mr Kaczynski's cabin several weeks ago after his brother David reluctantly went to the bureau after finding papers at the old family home with marked similarities to the Unabomber's writings.

The area was so remote that one watcher reportedly observed a cougar stalking and killing a deer. But yesterday some agents complained bitterly that they were forced to move in early after CBS reported they were about to execute a FBI's request.

search warrant. "I'm sure that continuing surveillance would have given us the strongest possible case. We didn't have that luxury," one said. The network vesterday insisted it had held the story for two days at the

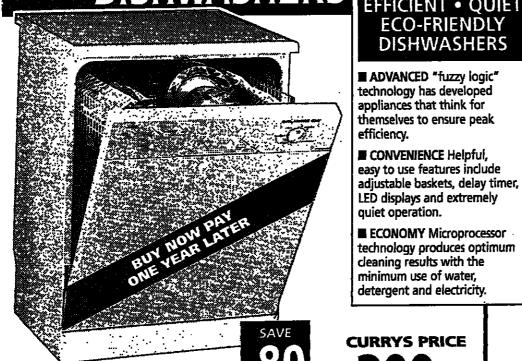


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War alert as North Korea scraps peace

JU-YEON KIM Associated Press

> Seoul - South Korea put its military on a heightened state of alert yesterday following North Korea's apparent dismissal of an armistice

agreement. The move affects primarily units charged with watching its side of the border. an troops and arms along the demilitarised zone separating the rival nations. No major troop movements were involved and a US spokesman said most of the 37,000 American military personnel in South Korea would not be affected.

"It will have no impact on them, by and large," said Jim Coles, the spokesman for both American and United Nations forces in Seoul. Mr Coles described the move as "an incremental step" that involves more frequent and more intensive monitoring of the North Korean military. The Defence Ministry said it was stepping up intelligence gathering activities immediately in conjunction with the US and UN military command. South Korean air, naval and ground patrols will be stepped up and more troops put on standby. The Defence Ministry said

North Korea's latest action "is an almost complete abrogation of the armistice, and different from its previous moves to discredit it.

"It looks as if North Korea is looking for an excuse to step up military provocation," the min-North Korea announced on

Thursday that it would "give up its duty" of jointly controlling the 2.5-mile-wide demilitarised zone separating it from South Korea. It said the action was in re-

sponse to South Korea moving personnel, tanks, artillery and

other heavy arms into the zone in violation of the armistice, which South Korea denies.

Thursday's declaration was seen as the latest step in a series of moves by North Korea aimed at forcing the US to negotiate a peace treaty by proving the armistice ineffective. Last year, North Korea forced military intelligence and other out neutral peace observers on

In reissuing its demand for peace talks earlier this year. North Korea said it would make one final move to prove that the armistice is worthless. Washington has rebuffed North Korea's calls for talks, saying it must negotiate with the South. But the communist North refuses to talk with what it calls

a puppet state.
The demilitarised zone was established at the end of the Korean War in 1953. The two sides have never signed a permanent peace treaty and are still technically at war.

In Washington on Thursday, the US State Department urged the North Koreans "to abide by their responsibilities under the armistice and to avoid provocative actions". North Korea's statement said its personnel and vehicles would no longer bear distinctive insignia and markings when entering the joint security area at Pan-munjom and the demilitarised

Last week, North Korea's vice defence minister accused the South of planning an attack and said that war on the peninsula was only a matter of time.

That statement was reiterated on Thursday by Yang Hyong Sop, chairman of North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly, in a speech reported by Radio Pyongvang in the northern capital. "The only issue is when [war] will begin," Yang said. "There is no longer any doubt that war will break out with an invasion from the south]."

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Child molester asks to be castrated

RUPERT CORNWELL

A convicted Texas child molester due to be set free on parole next week is asking to be castrated to cure him of his sickness - and for the first time ever a US state now says it is ready to oblige, and may well agree to foot the \$3,000 (£2,000) to \$4,000 bill for the operation.

This latest twist in a case which has frequently bordered on the grotesque amounts to a complete reversal by the Texas authorities, who had long objected that castration was nonessential "elective" surgery. But on Thursday the state's Board of Pardons and Paroles said that Larry Don McQuay could have his testicles removed, and that it would encourage him to do so.

McQuay is scheduled to be released from the state prison at Huntsville, 70 miles north-west of Houston, on Monday after serving six years of an eight year sentence for committing an indecent act on a San Antonio child in 1989. But the 32-yearold avowed paedophile claims to have molested 240 children in all. Last autumn McOuav re-

trate himself with a razor. Under normal circumstances McQuay would be paroled on condition he wore an electronic tracking device, at least while he completes the remaining two years of his term.

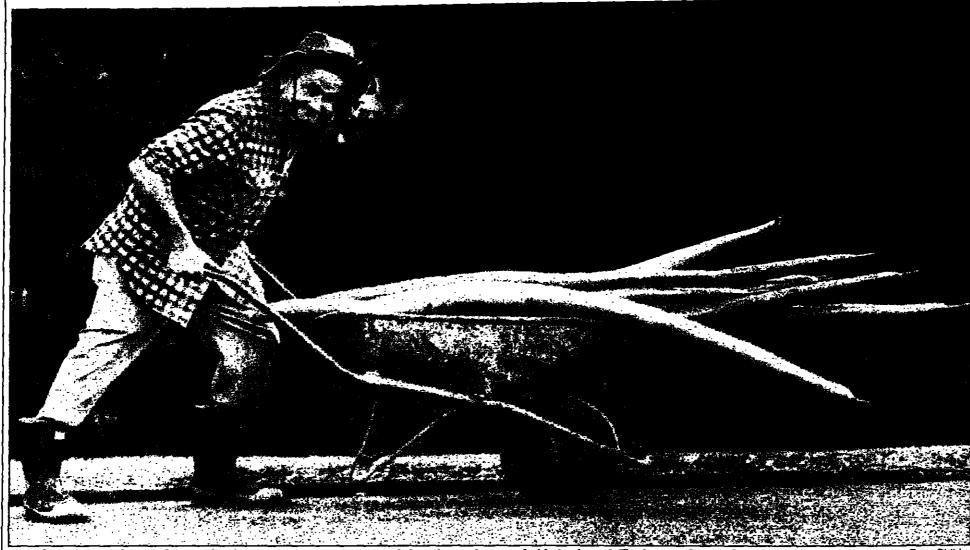
portedly tried but failed to cas-

Supporting the idea of castration, Governor George Bush (son of the former president) said he was "sickened" by the planned release of McQuay. But Mr Bush repeated warnings from medical specialists that castration was no guarantee of a cure. McQuay might still be "a danger to society," and the Parole Board should find some way to keep him in jail.

One option would be to charge McQuay with one of the other offences he claims to have committed. But the legality of such a step is uncertain.

Meanwhile controversy over McQuay's demand intensifies. A group called Justice For All has raised \$4.300 to pay for the operation. But Howard Ruppell, head of the American Association of Sex Educators, Counsellors and Therapists, said

Size does matter when the real Mr Bean sits down to eat his greens



Chirac relives Lebanese dream

ROBERT FISK

Naqqoura, Southern Lebanon

A loudspeaker crackled and Chirac's Own, the 240 Frenchmen of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, snapped to attention. The President of France had arrived to salute his tiny contingent in the Levant, so small they do not even have a band. A series of tinny marching songs (circa June 1940, or so it seemed), came from the loudspeakers as the unit whom the French Defence Ministry would most like to disband, but whom President Chirac refuses to withdraw, received the honour of France.

So tiny is the French contri-

force in Southern Lebanon that the UN call it merely the French Component". But their presence here over the years since 1978, during which they boasted a battalion, cost them 28 dead, losses, if the French are to be believed, who were "martyred" for Lebanon. There lies the rub. The 240 French soldiers in Naqqoura, logistics specialists, transport drivers and the like, represent a French dream: that France maintains its "presence", that sometime in thecoming years the people of Lebanon will wish to seek France's protection once more and return to that mythic relationship of love and loyalty which Paris believes existed un-

Mr Chirac's intentions were clear as he stood in front of the memorial to the French dead. France stood ready to guaran-tee the sovereignty of Lebanon after a Middle East peace, he said. France would continue its long, traditional friendship with Lebanon. French troops along the Lebanese-Israeli border? Was that what the French President was offering in the aftermath of a Middle East accord which more and more Lebanese suspect will never reach fruition? Or French military security for Lebanon, if a new peace agreement is to be coaxed from the ruins of the old?

Two hours earlier, at the Maronite Patriarch's Palace at

had promised the frail Cardinal Nasrallah Sfeir that France would support Lebanon's integrity as a sovereign state and added - Damascus please note - that although the Lebanese war had ended five years ago, "more humiliating is that it [Lebanon] loses every day a lit-tle more of its identity, of its dignity as an independent sovereign country." There are 22,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon and Mr Chirac seemed happy to reflect Christian anxiety about their presence.

But the Christian Maronites who are supposed to be France's allies had forgotten some of their traditional politeness when President Chirac

"Aoun was yesterday the honour of France," a man shouted of the rebel Christian Lebanese general who fought the Syrian Army in 1989 and then sought sanctuary at the French Embassy in Beirut.

"Today he is the prisoner of France." General Aoun lives in exile outside Paris, on condition he does not engage in political debate, a promise that he has repeatedly broken. "No elections under occupation," a banner that was held by another Christian, referring to this year's parliamentary elections, told the French President.

But Mr Chirac thought differently. The Christians must be masters of their own destiny, he their country's election. They should vote. At Naqqoura, in Israel's oc-

cupation zone, he was presented to a party of schoolchildren whose teacher embarked on a long speech of love for France. The President's eyes swivelled with irritation towards his Foreign Minister, Hervé de Charette who was forced to stand and watch this loquacious friend of France speaking for longer than the President had addressed his own troops.

No wonder they seemed happier at the UN cocktail party afterwards, where Chirac's Own helped him to chilled champagne in a garden above the Mediterranean. Here, surely, was la

IN BRIEF

EU heads for new members by 2000

Budapest - Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission, said yesterday that talks aimed at enlarging the European Union could begin by early 1998, writes Adrian Bridge. Concluding a two-day visit to Central Europe, he told Hungarian leaders that they were on course for accession talks, which could be concluded before the year 2000. He had earlier delivered the same message to the Czech Republic. "I don't think that all the candidates can participate in the first round [of talks]," he said, implying that other countries will have to wait longer.

Belgian sentenced

Brussels - A former Belgian defence minister, Guy Coeme, tried with seven associates on charges of fraud and forgery, was given a two-year suspended sentence and a fine in Belgium's highest court yesterday. He was accused of illegal use of taxpayers' money.

Chinese border row

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AND LEAST DESIGNATION OF THE PARTY OF THE PA 6 Jim Sackade Land OA middle williams a week from the

Oli can cost we man \$160,00g life cap

Vladivostok — The head of a commission overseeing the de-marcation of the Russian-Chinese border resigned in protest over plans to turn over Russian territory to China. Major Gen-eral Valergy Rozov said the transfer "harms the national interests of Russia."

Comaneci to wed

Bucharest — Nadia Comaneci, 34, the athlete who captured the world's hearts with perfect 10s at the 1976 Olympics, is to marry US gymnast Bart Conner, on 27 April in a giant palace built by the deposed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. AP

Zhirinovsky stands

Moscow — The ultra-national-ist Vladimir Zhirinovsky was registered yesterday as a candidate in Russia's June presidential election.

Noble tomb found

Cairo — Czech archaeologists working at Abu Sir, south of Cairo, have found the intact tomb of a nobleman from the 6th century BC.

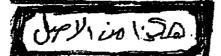
Crime solved fast

Brussels - Belgian police quickly solved two street robberies after victims described the culprit's two outstanding features - a bright yellow jacket and a plaster cast around one leg. Officers caught the 30year-old only 15 minutes after



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international y vivor Bosnia' y vivor bosnia' US 'secretly agreed Iran arms for Bosnia'

RUPERT CORNWELL Washington

NOTATION OF THE PARTY OF THE PA

President Clinton tacitly approved large-scale shipments of Iranian arms to Bosnia from early 1994, despite the United Nations arms embargo, and in defiance of his administration's own policy of isolating Iran as a fomentor of international terrorism and sworn enemy of

article in the Los Angeles Times. was there sympathy for Bosnia detailing a scheme which even here? The answer is, yes." at the time was strongly suspected by US allies, including Britain and France. In a carefully worded reaction, the White House said the US had all along observed "the letter of the law and the requirements of the UN Security Council resolution." But officials privately acknowledged that Washington was aware of the ship-

According to the newspaper, quoting US sources, an arms supply route was mooted by President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia early in 1994, after previous shipments of Iranian arms to Bosnia had been blocked in September 1992 following strenuous objections from the Bush Administration.

In early 1994, after the deal to set up a Muslim-Croat Bosn-

said to have approached two senior US diplomats. Peter Galbraith, Ambassador to Croatia, and Charles Redman, then Washington's special envoy to the Balkans. They said that the US would not protest - in diplomatic parlance that they had "no instructions" on the matter of Iranian arms shipments. President Clinton reportedly was

directly" involved. Thus deliveries began, continuing until January this year, after the implementation of

the Dayton peace accords. With tian Serbs out of the Krajina rethe tacit US approval, the LA Times said, the operation "grew into a large and well organized airlift operating through Turkey and Croatia, supplying thou-sands of tons of small arms, mortars, anti-tank-weapons and

The deliveries may moreover have had a crucial influence beyond Bosnia itself. The Creatian government siphoned off up to 30 per cent of the arms, using them to help drive Croa-

other light equipment".

gion in 1995 - changing the balance of the conflict.

And that is not the only irony. In previous US Government covert operations - above all Iran-Contra - the CIA was almost always among the vil-lains. This time, if the LA Times account is correct, the intelligence agency blew the whistle on the operation.

Kept out of the initial secret,

findings on to the White House. but a special intelligence oversight review cleared the Administration of any wrongdoing.

Furthermore, the Clinton White House was turning a blind eye to a major violation of the UN arms embargo - and one which European governments including Britain and France had also quickly detected and complained about at the very moment it was desthe agency inevitably detected perately fending off powerful the airlift. The CIA passed the pressure in Congress for

the embargo to be scrapped. Even though the Bosnian conflict is theoretically over, the Iranian connection still causes problems. According to US officials, Iran is maintaining "a significant presence" in Bosnia. There are rogue elements. which could pose a threat to our forces, and this is why we want an end to the link," said one, warning that the Iranian connection could derail the upcoming donor conference on

the reconstruction of Bosnia.

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The charges were set out yesterday in a long front-page ments. "Were we in a position to stop them? Not really. And Air crash victims to be flown home

and AGENCIES

On barren grey peaks soaring from the sparkling blue water of the Adriatic, the brilliant white tail of a US military jet marks the spot where 35 people died on Wednesday after-noon. Then, thick cloud obscured the hillside, blinding the pilot to the fact that he was flying parallel to his proper course until it was too late.

Yesterday, in bright sunshine, US helicopters hovered above a base camp close to the wreck- of the correct pass, which is age, winching in containers with the remains of the victims, who included Ron Brown, the US Commerce Secretary. One woman, a crew member, was found alive in the tail section but died on her way to hospital.

But US sources said most of the bodies were disfigured beyond recognition; they will be flown today to Dover air base in Delaware, so that forensic experts can determine the identities of 33 Americans and two

President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia, who declared yesterday a national day of mourning, was expected in Dubrovnik today for a farewell ceremony.

A team of 26 US investigators sifted through the debrismost of the fuselage was shattered on impact - searching for an explanation, their difficult task compounded by the absence of a black-box flight recorder aboard the jet.

to one another, the plane must be lost, it won't fare well" said Ana Duplica, who lives on the coast road in the village of Plat at the foot of the peak. "Af-ter it disappeared again into the fog we heard a loud noise as if he was taking off," added her husband, Miho, suggesting that the pilot had tried to climb out of danger. "The sound changed - and then nothing."

From the testimony of local villagers, it seems the plane flew in a straight line, parallel to the course it should have taken, two to three kilometres north-east marked by radio beacons in Kolocep, Lokrum and Cavtat.

The pilot contacted the tower to say he was over Kolocep and descending normally; but instead of passing Lokrum, he flew over Gornji Brgat, a village three kilometres inland and eight kilometres from the crash site. "It flew right over us" said Luce Basic, who returned to her home in the war-damaged village only three weeks ago.

"It was much louder than usual - when the planes are landing at Cilipi [airport] they go much further out towards the sea," she added. "We are really sorry, it's a great tragedy."

In Srebreno, which lies between Brgat and Plat, it was the same story. "The normal flight path is on the far side of that hill past the church and straight on instead, it came overhead," said Anto Kristovic, a cafe owner. "The engine sounded unusual," Mr Kristovic said, but The plane appeared from the fog was so heavy he could the clouds like a ghost. We said barely see across the road.

side their house, which has terraced balconies facing the sea, but went out in the rain to investigate the roar. "The noise was unusual," Mr Deplica said. "I came out and I saw the plane, its wings and engines climbing back into the cloud." Normally, said the couple, aircraft fly between two small islands off the coast and over the Cavtat beacon.

In Washington, a sombre President Bill Clinton planted a tree at the White House yesterday to honour Mr Brown and the 34 others who died.

Mr Clinton and his wife, Hillary, shovelled earth around a blossoming white dogwood tree set in a grove filled with ivy and white and yellow daffodils on the White House South

go to Oklahoma City, Hillary and I planted a dogwood tree here in honour of the public servants who lost their lives there," Mr Clinton told reporters.

"This year, as we prepare to go back almost a year later, we're planting, sadly, another tree in honour of Secretary Brown and all the public servants of the United States and the citizens who lost their lives in the plane crash," he

In addition to Brown and the six-member crew, the victims included 12 US businessmen, 12 US government officials, a European development bank official, a New York Times reporter, a Croatian interpreter and a Croatian photographer.

Serbs unearth 181 bodies in mass grave Belgrade (AP) — A mass grave

in northern Bosnia exhumed over the past two weeks contained 181 bodies, including those of women killed in their nightgowns, a Serb who took part in the exhumation was quoted as saying yesterday. All but one of the bodies.

thought to be Serbs killed last autumn, showed signs of vio-lence, Zoran Stankovic, who Stankovic said. headed a team of experts dig-

ging up the grave in Mrkonjic contains the bodies of Serbs who the youngest aged 22 and the Grad, told Serbia's Tanjug news were killed when Bosnian Croat oldest over 90. Mr Stankovic

John Gerns, an expert who is working with the international war crimes tribunal in The. Hague was present during the dig and the autopsies, he said. "We filmed all the bodies immediately and in the presence of international observers," Mr

The Serbs say that the grave

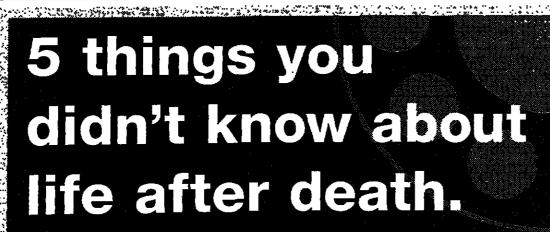
and Muslim troops took

Mrkonjic Grad last autumn. The Muslim-Croat federation returned Mrkonjic Grad and nearby Sipovo to the Serbs under the Dayton agreement. But before they left, Bosnian Croats troops burned and looted many homes.

said. There were also some soldiers in the grave.

Some women were found buried in their nightgowns, he added. Ilija Simic, an official in Serbia's commission for war crimes said he expected the Hague tribunal to react to the Mrkonjic Grad finds. He in-The victims were mostly civil-sisted that they constituted ians, including women, with clear evidence that war crimes

were committed in the region. Washington - A coalition of human rights groups asked an American court to make the US State Department and the CIA release their records on the massacre of Bosnian Muslims by Serbs last summer in the town of Srebrenica in eastern Bosnia. Srebrenica was the scene of some of the worst atrocities that were committed during the



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Discredited Berlusconi set to bounce back

ANDREW GUMBEL

For a man who has an indifferent record as government leader, who is treated with suspicion by the international community, who has already been squeezed out of power once, is now being pursued through the courts on corruption charges and faces constant challenges from his own political allies, Silvio Berlusconi is really doing rather well for himself.

With a little over two weeks to go before Italy's third general election in four years, the media tycoon-turned-politician is still very much in the driving seat of the conservative coalition that he brought into government last time round. What's more, as the campaign develops, he is making all the running against his adversaries on the centre-left.

According to the last opinion polls that can legally be pub-lished before election day (they are banned in the last three weeks), the Freedom Alliance made up of Mr Berlusconi's Forza Italia party and the reformed neo-fascist National Alliance - appears to be nudg-ing very slightly ahead of its rival coalition bloc, a far broader grouping of leftists. environmentalists and moderate Catholics known as the

The secret? Mr Berlusconi is producing a fine-tuned, but essentially identical, version of the political platform that catapulted him into the centre of politics in 1994. Vote for me, he says, and I will make Italy as successful as my business empire. I will create jobs, cut taxes, put Italy back on the international map and reform the institutions of state to create stable and durable government.

office last time around. Never mind the lack of detail in his programme. Never mind that he and Gianfranco Fini, leader of the National Alliance, present a far more radical right-wing profile than most voters would

normally feel comfortable with. Mr Berlusconi is an able communicator, especially on the television stations he owns.



Lamberto Dini: His party may prove to be decisive

His sun-tanned face and everoptimistic tone seem to be working. Most remarkably, he has managed to twist all his judicial problems into a political issue: the magistrates are controlled by the left, he argues, and they are out to get him.

The mood in the opposition camp is nervous, if not down-right fatalistic. "Berlusconi is so good at playing the victim that it is impossible for us to fight the campaign on his weaknesses: the conflict of interest between his television empire and his political career, his questionable business practices, or his links with corrupt politicians in the past," said one volunteer at the Olive Tree's headquarters.

Instead, the dominant issue Never mind that Mr Berlus- has been taxation. Both sides coni failed to do any of these agree that the tax system is too

complicated (there are more than 100 separate income taxes). Both agree widespread evasion has to be vigorously combated, both through law enforcement and by overhauling the inefficient and corrupt state sector so that taxpayers feel they get their money's worth. Both sides even agree that, long term, taxes should come down since many households are surrendering 50 per cent of their income to make up for others who dodge payment.
But somehow Mr Berlusconi

has managed to persuade voters that there is an argument, and that he is winning it. Without committing himself, he has invoked the US presidential candidate Steve Forbes' call for a flat rate and suggested that income tax could be reduced immediately. The centre-left, meanwhile, has been less flamboyant but more realistic, saying Italy has to get its massive public deficit under control before any promises can be made.

The crunch moment of the campaign was a confrontation between Mr Berlusconi and the leader of the Olive Tree, Romano Prodi, before an audience of small businessmen. Mr Berlusconi was in his own con-

stituency, earning generous ap-plause for every utterance - and er, that he cancelled a second scheduled debate on primefor sheer debating skills, he beat time television. "It was really painful," admitted the cam-Mr Prodi hands down. So unnerved was Mr Prodi, paign worker. "It seems we are condemned to be right but for an intelligent but not particularly incisive or forceful speaknobody to believe us."

Tarnished reputation: Berlusconi with his lawyers in court earlier this year

leaders, and political analysts

The centre-left is perhaps a believe that short of a decisive shade over-pessimistic, the result of being excluded from power for the last 50 years. Opinion polls show voter trust

Photograph: Luca Bruno centre-right victory - which does not seem very likely - the

Olive Tree is still likely to be an important component in whatto be much higher in its ever government emerges after

What could swing the contest is the performance of the prime minister, Lamberto Dini, who has set up his own party. He has provisionally hitched himself to the centre-left, but he is a conservative by temperament and a former Berlusconi acolyte, and has not ruled out a swing back to the right.
Political sources say Mr.

Dini's long-term aim may be to supplant Messrs Berlusconi and Fini and form a more respectable conservative bloc. Such a group might be reinforced by moderate conservatives disillusioned with Mr Berluscom as well as prominent figures such as Antonio Df Pietro, the former anti-corruption magistrate who wants to enter politics but seems unable to decide whose side to take.

Mr Di Pietro, regularly voted Italy's most popular publication figure, is another anti-Berlusconi conservative. He has just! thrown off a slew of judicial mud? thrown at him by supporters of Mr Berlusconi, who attempted? to put him on trial for abuses of office, and could yet be considered a compromise choice for government leader or senior cabinet minister if the election produces no clear result.

PEKING DAYS

Where men bathe in milk until it curds

The icy winds have stopped blowing, the buds are opening on the trees - and Spring Mad-ness has taken hold in China. All of a sudden, Chinese newspapers are vying with each other to offer stories about the unexpected aspects of economic reform and the evolution of the country's social norms.

Take the Shenhe Worker's Cultural Palace in the northeastern city of Shenyang. This previously sober establishment has just announced that it has built a special cage in order to suspend a wolf-cub above the dance floor. The animal will be illuminated by three lights to encourage it to prance about and howl. This "Dancing with Wolves" has the added benefit. said the Yangcheng Evening News, "that the wolf-cub would not demand a high performance fee like a singer. So as not to tire out the animal, it will at least only be expected to

dance for one hour a night. In Nanjing, near Shanghai, the new general manager of the Nanjing Dairy Industry Group has launched an important new venture: the milk bath. Thanks to the new Shanghai-Nanjing highway, reported the Peking Youth Daily, low-price dairy products from Shanghai now have a quick and easy route to one particular Nanjing public bath-house. (Many traditional Chinese homes do not include a toilet or bathroom.)

This bathhouse, which used to offer a Chinese herbal bath. now every morning fills its crescent-shaped communal tub with milk. This is for the men, who pay 38 yuan (£3) for the lactic dunking. Ladies are offered a more private service; for 88 yuan, each female customer receives a bucket containing 5kg of milk. Some Nanjing men clearly feel that a milk bath is a nice way to round off the day; the report says that the bath is not emptied until 2am the following morning, by which time the bath house is presumably well on its way to offering that nose-wrinkling curd cheese

bathing experience. In Shiyan, in Hubei province, today should have meant manna from heaven for locals, if only the authorities had not got in-volved. The Shiyan Xinggan Villa Company had hired an airplane in order to scatter along the main street some 80,000 yuan (£6,500) in coupons which could be exchanged for cash. In a country where the average annual urban wage is about 3,500 yuan, this was bound to cause pandemonium.

For the past two weeks, advertisements announcing this redistribution of wealth have been on local television and newspapers. "Pay attention to traffic when picking up the coupons," it urged. One farmer, according to the Peking Youth Daily, planned to travel 30 miles into town, hoping to use this "air-money" to buy fertiliser.

Local officials decided otherwise. They said that today's enterprise would "cause traffic congestion, impair social safety, and incur injury and death".

and grounded the venture. Sometimes the best of schemes go awry. In Xian. according to China Women's Daily, the 25 or so students in one middle school thought they had hit upon the answer to surviving dreary classes. The 12-yearolds had heard that sleeping pills contained morphine "which can stimulate the mind" and bought three or four bottles of the pills, distributing them before the afternoon lessons. "About 3pm, the teacher noticed some students were drowsy," re-ported the newspaper. As one by one they fell into a deep slumber, the teacher realised it must be more than the normal stupor, and before long the class was being taken to hospital.

Meanwhile, in Zhengzhou Henan province, the Imperial Garden restaurant's attempt to brighten up people's lives has been deemed a "bad cultural tendency". It seemed far from counter-revolutionary when the restaurant launched an "evening tea" service and put up a large banner reading: "Light a lamp of hope in the darkness' a quote from a well-known Taiwanese pop song. Spring Mad-ness among local officials has now judged this to be a highly political act. The local newspaper thundered: "For whom does this restaurant offer such a service with the name Imperial Garden? Here in China, what we are doing is to construct a socialistic market economy. Socialism is the pre-condition."
The lamp of hope has been swiftly extinguished.

Zhengzhou's residents will instead have to settle for television this holiday weekend, when Easter coincides with the traditional Ching Ming grave-sweeping festival, and today's birthday of Guanyin, the Buddhist idol of compassion. The China Central Television (CCTV) film channel should have people gripped. It offers a programme of films today including Stupid Manager, Lover's Blood, Life Filled With Twists and, for those who last until midnight. The Fatal Tattoo.

Teresa Poole

THE NEW FILM EPIC FROM CHANNEL 4. STARRING TED DANSON. PETER O'TOOLE, JAMES FOX, SIR JOHN GIELGUD, NICHOLAS LYNDHURST,

From the Channel that brought you the award-winning Four Weddings and a Funeral, A Room with a View and Howards End, Gulliver's Travels is a film of truly epic proportions. Ted Danson sets out on an adventure that is both a visual extravaganza and a social satire. With an all-star cast and dazzling special effects, it's a spectacular film created from a fascinating story. Something everyone big and small, will want to see this Easter.

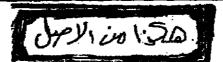
A MINIATURE SHEEP AND

TALKING HORSES.

MORE HIGHLIGHTS ON CHANNEL 4.

WITHOUT WALLS The award-winning arts series continues with a three-part essay by Gore Vidal examining the American Presidency and investigations into the Eigin Marbles. Buddy Holly, Lad Culture and Classic Cop Shows, Tuesdays at 9,00pm.

RORY BREMNER ... WHO ELSE! A new senior



MUSIC AND THE MIND A new series examining

want to dance? Starts Sunday, May 5th at 9.00pm.



THIS EASTER WEEKEND WHY NOT...

MAKE A Trip to the Races

The traditional Easter Monday start to Sunbury's flat racing season puts first-time race-goers on the inside track with free admission for under-16s, free ice cream for kids and free doughnuts for everyone else.

Sunbury, Middlesex (01932 782292). Club £15. Grandstand £10. Silver Ring £5. under-16s free. Gates open 11.30am, first race 2.10pm, last race 4.45pm

RE-LIVE Rock 'n' Roll

Dig out the drainpipes and brothel-creepers and head for Birmingham and the Great Rock 'n' Roll Weekend. Jive your way through three solid days of skiffle, doo-wop, hillbilly and every other conceivable form of rock and roll madness. Join the Fifties' dress competition in Victoria Square or listen to the 14 combos in 15 locations. Rock 'n' Roll Hotline: 0121-454 7020

FIND A Fabergé Egg

Anyone with money to burn who feels like soaking up a little luxury should look no further than the Four Seasons Hotel. A solid gold pendant egg designed by Sarah Fabergé has been hidden in the hotel and for one lucky guest it will be a case of "finders keepers". 整 Four Seasons Hotel, London W1.

Double room incl. champagne and breakfast: £230/night (0171-499 0888)

Kite Flying

As they sing at the end of Mary Poppins (Monday BBC1 2.35pm) "Let's Go Fly a Kite". On Sunday and Monday, you can too, along with champions from across Europe and Australia. There will be stalls selling everything from kite-making kits to the latest in sport and stunt kites. A free, fun day out for beginners (expert advice available) or old hands. 麗 Blackheath, London 10-5pm

WATCH North by Northwest

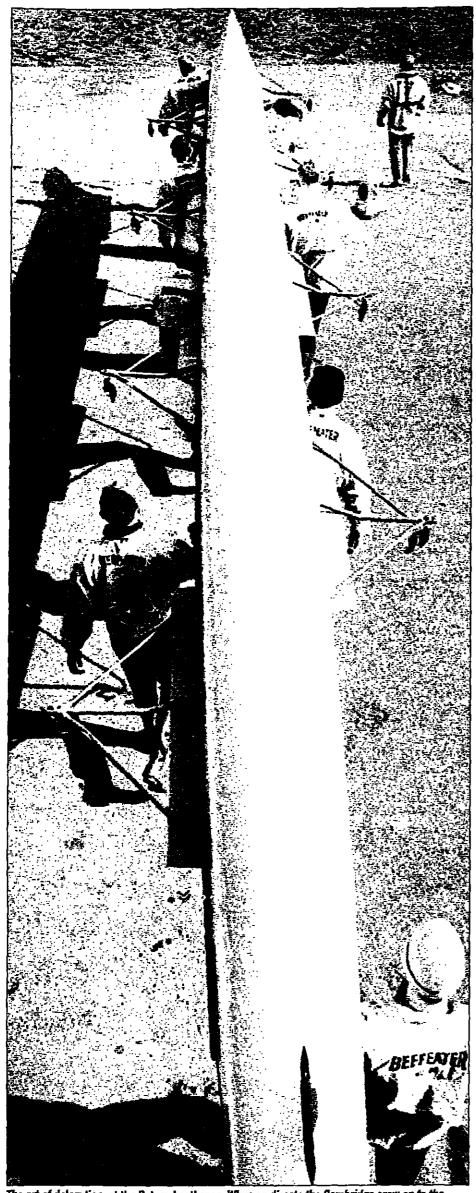
Hitchcock was a master of claustrophobia, even creating it in a wide open field in this film's most famous scene when a cropsprayer terrorises dashing Cary Grant. In a newly struck print, splashed up on the big screen, it's sensational. The BFI will rerelease Rebecca and Notorious later this year, so start the Hitchcock revival nov. (0171-379 3014)

SHOPPING 4-6 GARDENING 12 JUMBO CROSSWORD 19 MONEY 22-25 JODAY	26
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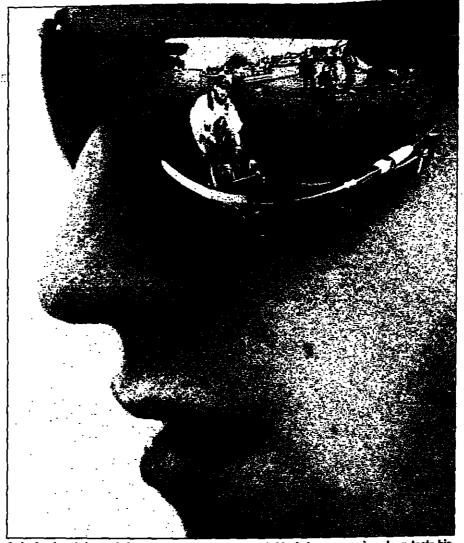
picture story



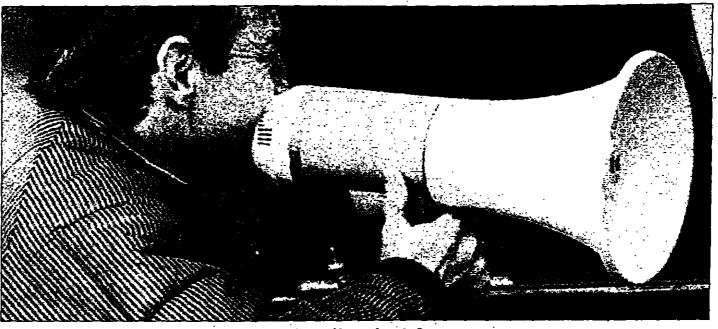
The art of delegation: at the Putney boathouse, Whyman directs the Cambridge crew on to the water. If they win this year, it will be the fourth victory in a row for the light blues



The Oxford stroke, Adam Frost, carries his cox, Todd Kristol, back to the Putney boathouse



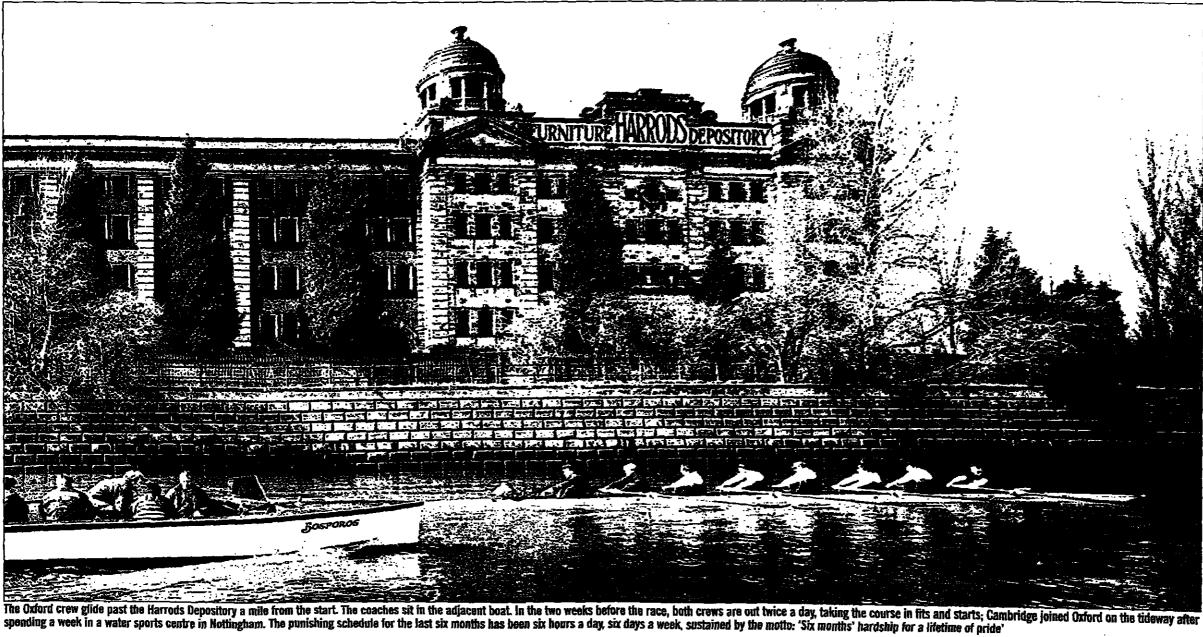
A shade of cool: James Ball, the stroke upon whom Cambridge's hopes are pinned, protects his eyes from the glare and reflects his cox, Kevin Whyman



Dan Topolski, the Oxford director of coaches, shouts encouragement to his crew from the Bosporos

RACE FOR THEIR LIVES

For most people, the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race means having a flutter or taking a trip down a Thames towpath. But for the 16 oarsmen who will set off from Putney Bridge at 3.30pm this afternoon on the gruelling four-and-a-quarter mile dash to Chiswick Bridge, it will be make or break. David Ashdown watched the end of six months' preparations for race No.142



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More Mr Nice Guy

Gregory Peck says he's no moral guardian, but modern Hollywood's bad manners cast him in an even whiter light than 40 years ago. By John Lyttle. Portrait by Tiddy Maitland-Titterton

this outside?" It's a glorious day and there are too busy maids and bossy butlers, and, for some unexand spits.

Peck muses as he crosses the rolling lawn, past the artful flower beds, toward the river's edge. "I'm retired, you know. I don't make movies any more." Pause. "When I say I'm retired, I mean retired unless a great role came along. ing out of retirement."

Immediately is lightly stressed. Gregory Peck doesn't do overstatement.

He is in Cognac to receive an award at a film festival. The Martell family chateau - "they're the drinks people" - lies behind him now, basking in the heat, white, serene, picturepostcard perfect. Mid-morning in rural France. Everything taste mean the big roles have dried up and the best scripts is beautiful. And, suddenly, comes a soft surprise - a burst of Yeats, "I will arise and now, and go to Innisfree, And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made: Nine beanrows will I have there, and a hive for the honey-bee, And live alone in the bee-loud glade...'

The voice is a deep, smooth, smokey familiar thing, a voice to woo goddesses with (Gardner, Loren, Bergman and Kerr) or, taken an octave lower, a voice to command - haven't Niven, Quinn, Power and Mitchum all jumped to its bidding?

There's a bench. Gregory Peck sits with a barely discernible sigh of relief, a sound a man just shy of 80 would make. A resolute hand rises to brush back hair no longer black, but silver grey, and superbly cut. The voice again: "Then I have my one-man stage show. I travel the United to be the last of the noble men. States with that. It breaks into three acts. It begins with a

selection of my films ... you may have seen it? Certainly. Electric highlights from Roman Holiday, the original (and superior) Cape Fear, The Guns of Navarone, Spellbound, On the Beach, The Gunfighter, Twelve O'Clock High, How the West Was Won, Arabesque, The Snows of Kilimanjaro. The Yearling, Old Gringo, the Best Actor Oscarwinning To Kill a Mockingbird, and more: The Big Country, Captain Horatio Hornblower, Gentlemen's Agreement. Flickering visions of liberal decency and blunt incorruptibility battling against the forces of dull, dumb reaction visions made all the more poignant for having been almost with my image and my name. And I remember thinking, What wholly discarded by modern Hollywood and most of the

western world. A world unfit for heroes, Peck nods: "Of course, they claim that the character who is dependable, trustworthy, brave, strong and polite is hopelessly out of date. And in the current phase of Hollywood, they're right. The only character with those qualities we've had recently has been a pig called Babe. A couple of years ago, it was what we used to call a between the two wary parties before being left, at the age retard. It was Forrest Gump." Peck almost laughs, but not of 10, in a military academy run by the Sisters of Mercy. "A quite. Something sticks in his throat.

ment or the goodie-goodie. Nobody looks forward to the authority's righteous excesses, probably began there. It would return of the goodie-goodie. But you can't escape that people still want the man you can rely on in a crisis. The man

regory Peck shakes hands and asks, "Shall we do who is willing to sacrifice his reputation or his life for a principle is still a figure we look up to. I knew Lyndon Johnson many bodies about indoors - a TV crew, secretaries, and he had a phrase - There is a man you can go to the well with.' The well is outside the stockade, and there are plained reason, a trio of back-up singers practising Indians hiding, so the man you can go to the well with is harmonies on a sound system that hisses, splutters the man you can trust. Where do you find a man you can go to the well with today?"

Nowhere. Except preserved on celluloid, like some exotic but extinct species trapped in amber. "So, my oneman show starts with the selection," Peck explains. "I come on for the second act and sit in a high director's chair and If a great role came along, I would immediately come charg- tell a few stories, mostly in a light vein, hopefully amusing and entertaining. Then I open it up for questions. That's my one-man show."

And there's the other one-man show, the one Peck is giving in Cognac, the performance stars find themselves delivering once the hot comet of their career cools, when advancing age, retreating box office and mutating mass are hand-delivered elsewhere.

This one last character part: living icon, conversation piece, the abstract of fame finally reduced to human flesh, filmed now by tourists' camcorders, not Hitchcock's magic box, as yet another homage looms and the essence of your screen image is stripped down, reassembled and handed back in its new, improved form. The latest academic update - Gregory Peck, Nice Guy, precursor to Kevin Costner, patrician template for ordinary Tom Hanks, Mr Middle Class, Middle America incarnate. As if they really knew him, the man, rather than the projection, the light and shadow that became a symbol of... let's try a few outmoded words. Dignity. Courage. Morality. Good. What a fate -

"Well," says Peck, face upturned to catch the sun's warmth, "over 50 years you have a chance to get used to it. Let me say this. I started my career in theatre in a \$6 a week rented room in New York, hanging around street corners between jobs with the other unemployed actors. That's how I and Kirk Douglas met. And when I went back to New York after making my second film in Hollywood - a successful picture called The Keys of the Kingdom - and one day, it must have been, oh, 1944, I found myself standing on one of those corners, and across in Times Square, I saw a tremendous billboard about 80ft high and 20ft wide. That billboard bore am I going to do? Am I going to be overwhelmed? Or do I keep my mind on the work?' And I realised what mattered. The work. It all comes back to the work. I was never overwhelmed by fame. Never."

It couldn't have been that easy. Not with Peck's background. Divorced parents at the age of three, in an era when divorce still carried a stigma, a childhood spent shuttling kind of tough time," he says. Kind of tough, and, if forgiven, "I'm not arguing for the return of either cheap sentinot forgotten. Peck's sensitivity to social injustice, to blossom in the heat of the limelight. Confronted with the

contract that allowed the moguls draconian power and the people who exploit, who steal an idea and spoil it. They promised the artist equal measures of money and punishment. Peck wanted - no, demanded - the right to choose his own roles. Remarkably, he got it.

Critical opinion insists that his best role was himself. Certainly, audiences who fell in love with him in his 1943 debut. Days of Glory, backed away from the mad (Captain Ahab in Moby Dick), bad (Dr Mengele in The Boys from Brazil) or dangerous to know (the bastard brother in Duel in the Sun) - each a brave attempt to keep a halo from permanently settling on his head. On and off screen, Peck became "Hollywood's best-liked liberal" - the happily married (there was an earlier, seldom-discussed divorce) safe pair of hands the Democratic Party wanted to lure into mainstream politics to combat the Republican threat Bette Davis scornfully referred to as "that little Ronnie Reagan", Peck refused the dubious honour, but he let his politics and conscience guide his choice of script, even at the risk of appearing - dreaded word - worthy. Gentlemen's Agreement dissects anti-Semitism; The Gunfighter is a pungent portrayal of self-perpetuating violence; To Kill a Mockingbird confronts racial bigotry: On the Beach bears witness to a world destroyed by the nuclear arms race. Even the later cameo parts, such as the patriarchal factory owner in 1991's Other People's Money, are flush with meaning: "The almighty dollar isn't everything. There's community, too." Movies with a message.

Peck quietly groans. "I'm not a moral guardian. And there's nothing dishonourable about turning out an entertaining action picture. A lot of people enjoyed The Guns of Navarone. But without wanting to take any great amount of credit for speaking out on social topics, when those stories were offered, I did seize upon them with enthusiasm, because it gave me a chance to have my say.

You have hopes. You hope people will come out of To Kill a Mockingbird and perhaps examine their own makeup and recognise they may harbour hatred and think about that, and perhaps try to change. That's as much as you can do. You hope.

Gregory Peck is aware that hope can be vain. He looks at cinema today and what he sees saddens and repels him "blood splashed upon the screen for the sake of sensation". He offers the statement cautiously, with considered thought. He knows that what he's about to say may make him seem a dinosaur in a world of Reservoir Dogs, so he makes his points painstakingly clear.

No, he doesn't agree with the V-chip. He dreads government censorship. He has no sympathy with the religious far-right "who want to tell us what we can and cannot watch". held the day before to pacify the local press. But Texcess worries me, this sick, foolish, meaningless violence for the sake of violence, without any real signifiance to the story. I don't object to violence if it's an integral part of the plot - and you can tell when it's an integral part of the plot.

"I've seen Pulp Fiction. The technique is brilliant. No question. Tarantino takes the screen. The violence, the obscenity and roughness and ruthlessness was a realistic, vivid vision of that one aspect of American life.

want to shock, to scare. It's a carnival of savagery, way overboard. And they're making movies for children, not for

adults. Unfortunately." Peck knows the clock cannot be turned back. He knew that when Martin Scorsese came shopping for the rights to Cape Fear, owned by Peck's production company. "Compare the 1962 and the 1991 versions. In the original, I'm a solid family man. I'm good. Bob Mitchum is bad. Now, the remake is interesting because of its moral ambivalence. Nick Nolte's lawyer has been unethical and he's been unfaithful, too - even though he's married to Jessica Lange." Peck permits himself a smile. "Bob De Niro is a monster, but he's educated himself in jail and he has a genuine complaint against Nolte. Like it or not, he didn't defend his client properly. That's the distance travelled. Hero and anti-hero... each has elements of the other."

So it's not that he demands Hollywood dictate a definite moral line: "It never did. But the system practised a certain... restraint. A restraint absent from say. Scorsese's Casino. "I don't want to come down hard on any particular film-maker. But the torture scenes... and the Joc Pesci character, who lives for immediate gratifaction, who takes what he wants when he wants, regardless. People are fed up with that. When I travel the States, it doesn't matter if they are young or old, Republican or Democrat, almost everyone expresses a disgust for this sort of motion picture. And Casino, remember, didn't do well. It was a

big disappointment. This gives Peck heart. Perhaps audiences are voting with what counts - their wallets. Perhaps the profit-obsessed "unfeeling" billion-dollar conglomerates that drive the business today, that have "no great concern for what may not be right for children to see - the violence we're talking about, the overt sex" - have noted the turning away from "blowing up gasoline tanks and slaughtering bystanders wholesale". This year's Oscar nominees, he recites, included Il Postino, Babe, Sense and Sensibility and Apollo 13 (Peck carefully avoids mentioning the bloody Braveheart), and Apollo 13 is "essentially about the men up there in a desperate condition winning against the odds... you know old-fashioned stuff."

The sun has scuttled behind dark clouds and the wind whipping off the river chills. Peck wonders if enough hasn't been said. Probably. Returning across the lawn, two small dogs bark for his attention. "They're Maltese - excitable," he says, and stoops to pet and stroke. And, as he does, a sound-bite wings back unbidden from the press conference

Banally asked if he had any advice he wanted to pass on. Peck actually stopped and gave the question some thought, before quoting the Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius: "Do not lie. Do not play the role of a hypocrite. Do not build walls around yourself."

A flash-bulb explodes. "Wait. There's more... Do fear death. Be ready to go when the time comes. And do it with decency." Pause, "Decency, That word again," Gregory Peck laughs. It sounds like thunder in heaven, "Good advice from "But there are the imitators who feed on a new trend, a pagan emperor."

One size fashion: an ill-fitting insult to the neglected art of tailoring

By Louise Levene

ne size fits all. No it doesn't. Only in the sense that a bed sheet with a hole in it could be worn by anyone. Just because Dawn French and Kate Moss could both wear the same poncho doesn't mean that it fits them.

Yet our faith in the "one-size fits all" philosophy extends to even the most intimate garments: Mary Quant used to make one-size bras; tall leggy women and little plump women are supposed to struggle into the same tights; even condoms are made on the assumption that all men are created equal (when any woman of the most limited experience will tell you that they are nothing of the kind).

It is apparent to the most casual observer that humans don't come in just one size, yet you always find yourself standing behind people who seem to have swapped trousers with a friend for a bet.

Until this century the concept of sizes didn't really exist. All but the humblest clothes were made to measure, either at home or at the tailors or dressmakers. Not that made-tomeasure is necessarily synonymous with made-to-fit - as any bridesmaid will testify. "Homespun", "home-made" and "dressmakery" are still terms of derision, and badly finished, unlined, i adequately pressed efforts can be detected at 50 paces by the trained eye. They always could.

Sick of this often provincial look, the women of America between the wars began to demand elegant massproduced clothes.

structure tailored to the torso with a sleeve is a skill, and skills come countless pieces of fabric and inter- expensive. lining wholly unsuited to mass production. The relatively simple tube many collarless jackets with big industry and its scientifically calculated stock sizes. But the trade still recognised that the best cutting and make in the world couldn't make all size 12 women the same shape; the fitting room was a vital part of the process where a salesperson with a mouthful of pins could make the necessary adjustments - at no extra

cost. Labour was cheap. would all be the beneficiaries of this sartorial Utopia: casual wear had begun its relentless slouch from the locker room to the parlour.

In those days, casual meant blazer and flannels, but they proved to be the thin end of a wedge that led to a world that slobs around in its pyjamas all day while catalogues plop through the letterbox promising "easy to wear", "easy moving", clothes with -

God help us - "couch appeal".
Who is the real beneficiary of all this ease and comfort? Not the slob on the couch. Every major trend in everyday clothing (as opposed to fashion, which is a different thing entirely) has made life simpler for the manufacturer and retailer. Tracksuits, shellsuits, ethnic dress, Barbours and the lycra boom have all conformed to the one-size-fits-all ideal. Indeterminate sizing and elastic have rendered the normal requirements of fit superfluous. If a shell suit actually fits you, it's time to have your jaw wired.

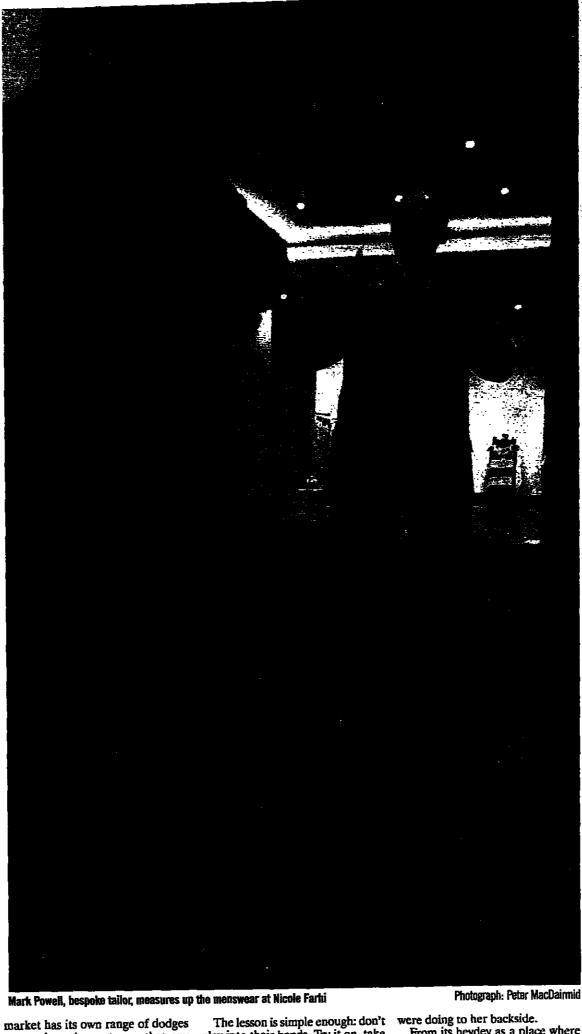
There is only one drawback: unless you are a very pretty little 18-year-old, you will look like a dog in these clothes. As generations of women trudge along the high streets of Britain, their toneless buttocks squidging repellently from side to side in their one-size leggings, the only winners are the manufacturers who saved on labour (no patterns to grade) and the shopkeeper (no sizes to stock).

Why do you think so many dresses are made without sleeves? It's not a conspiracy by homosexual fashion designers to make women over 25 reveal their flabby upper arms to the world. It's a conspiracy all right, but Until the First World War a it's a conspiracy by the garment trade woman's dress had been an elaborate to cut costs in skilled labour. Setting

Why do you think there are so lder nads about? Because it's was tailormade for the evolving look that enables a gabardine bag with buttons up the front to masquerade as tailoring. The absurd quantities of padding in men's jackets mean that even skinny, pigeonchested little chaps can affect a heroic, mesomorphic physique – Gary Lineker looks as if he could climb into his jackets without touch-

ing the sides. Such disregard of the vagaries of The future looked bright. Soon we the human form is bad enough in the mass market of leisurewear, but it is affordable, high-quality tailoring. But surely unforgivable in those sectors a parallel trend was one day to wreck of the clothing business that trade on such words as "design" and "cut" and

"tailoring". Yet even the quality end of the



to convince the customer that any shortfall between their size and shape and that of the garment on offer is illusory, irrelevant or even deliberate: "they are wearing them slightly baggy this season madam", "it's designed to be worn with a belt" and (my absolute all-time favourite) "it's bracelet length, madam" the temerity to ask why the sleeves

House and Home

play into their hands. Try it on, take a good long look at it from all angles, bend over, raise your arms and if it doesn't fit, don't buy it.

It is fair to assume that the woman in front of you on the escalator has never actually seen herself from the back. No normal person has a rearview mirror in their bedroom and no should the gorilla in question have margin-hungry chain store will have wanted her to know exactly what those penny-pinching pedal-pushers

From its heydey as a place where clothes were transformed from offthe-peg to made-to-measure, the fitting room has since become a mere modesty booth where the female customer could check that the size 12 would get over her hips before stepping outside to a chorus of encour-

aging falsehoods. "Does my burn look big in this?" she asks. Very possibly, but who's going to tell her?

HIGH AND LOW STREET **TAILORING**

Are designer labels, with prices to match, a measure of quality? Mark Powell, a bespoke tailor, whose clients include Julian Clary, Bryan Ferry and Naomi Campbell, took Sally Williams on a tour of the West End, and cast a critical eye over the ready-to-wear market.

Giorgio Armani: the women's jacket at £400 is better value than the Armani man's suit for £700 because the styling on the woman's is more innovative. The men's suits are boxy, loosely structured and not that different from styles on the high street which cost a fraction of the price. Armani fabrics are good quality: a mix of wool and silk; and silk and viscose for Spring/Summer. The use of synthetic fabrics no longer indicates inferior quality as both top designers and chain stores use a variety of fabrics. Some synthetic fabrics do fluff up however, as do wools and cottons. If a new article of clothing bobbles, take it back. To test the quality of a fabric, crumple it by hand and check that it doesn't hold creases (linens are the exception to this rule).

Gucci: the cut of the man's suit (£750) and woman's jacket (£500) are both of a very high standard. The two tone "tonic" fabric of the man's suit is beautiful, but the quality of tailoring on both is very average (the linen suit which costs £650 doesn't even have button holes on the cuff). Gucci, more than any other designer, is very hyped at the moment. You're not only paying for the jacket, you're paying for merchandising, a prime site shop, thick carpets and glossy assistants. It's not worth it.

Nicole Farhi: both the man's suit at £549 and the woman's jacket at £300 are excellent value for money. The silhouette of the jacket is great; the quality of the fabric (lightweight wool) is very high and given that the jackets are manufactured and not bespoke, the tailoring is good. Examine the linings and make sure they are smooth and invisible from the right side of the garment; make sure checks, stripes and cross seams match up neatly; look and feel for flat, smooth seams with well-finished edges; make sure stitching is straight, regular and unbroken; make sure zips work smoothly and lie flat and check that trims, pockets, buttons and fasteners are securely attached.

Jigsaw: at £139 for a woman's jacket and £295 for a man's suit (96 per cent wool and 4 per cent lycra), Jigsaw represents pretty good value. The styling is good, although the quality of the fabric is not exceptional and probably won't wear well. Jigsaw pitch for the longevity. The tailoring is a bit hit and miss but the clothes are stylish and reasonably priced. You could easily take a Jigsaw silk shirt for £55, stick it in Gucci with a £200 mark-up and people would be quite happy to pay.

Marks and Spencer: the woman's jacket for £90 and the man's suit at £99 (both wool and polyester mix) are very disappointing despite Marks and Spencer's reputation for being good value for money. The buttons on the woman's jacket are too heavy for the fabric and the collar is not lined and so does not lie flat. The man's suit is cheap, but very dull. Styling has improved on the women's wear over the last few years, but men's wear is still very mediocre.

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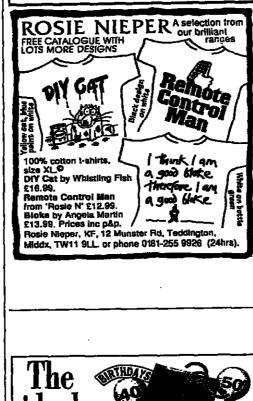




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Unusual Gifts

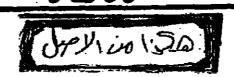


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page 6.



Want to do something different with sausages?

Don't waste hours with cook books, just consult your computer. Martin Whittaker test drives the new software, Menu Maker

here you are in the kitchen at 5pm, surveying the contents of the fridge in hope of inspiration while hungry children tear around your feet. "How about sausages and cauliflower cheese?" you suggest, knowing it's the best your weary imagination can come up with. "Don't like cauliflower," comes one dismissive reply. "We had sausages last week," comes another. So you reach for the cook books hoping to find something different in there. But ten minutes later, you're still hunting for that recipe as the screaming gets louder.

MO LOW STREET

It's a perennial problem - how to dish up a meal from the ingredients available, given ever-changing likes and dislikes: perhaps a child who's decided she's vegetarian or an adult counting the calories. Now Tricia Bidmead and Jo Stewart, from Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire, believe they have the answer. They have developed a piece of computer software called Menu Maker,

Once installed on a PC you can call up a vast list of recipes. So you want to do something different with sausages? Just click your mouse on the search icon, tap in "sausages", and up come 16 suggestions - toad in the hole, sausages with lentils and garlic, sausage and chickpea stew, and so on.

Tricia and Jo, who call their company Recipe for Success, developed the idea following their own experiences in the catering trade and as working mothers. Tricia worked in contract catering and Jo was a systems engineer with IBM before she took over the running of her parents' country house hotel.

"The chefs there took great pride in changing the menu every day," says Jo. "The downside was that every day when they came in they had to see what food they had.

"They'd say right - we've got monkfish and spring onions - we'll do a spicy fish dish. But then there might be some guests who were allergic to onions, others who might not like it too spicy. In the end it would take them about two hours every day, turning the pages of cook books just to find recipes for the ingredients we had. I thought this is madness - why are we wasting all this time? So I began to devise the system."

It worked in the hotel and the chefs were happy once more. But the two women believed there was a wider demand for the idea both commercially and on the home front.

'We realised that what people needed was a quick and easy way to find ing recipes and working on the software. Menu Maker runs on a PC with Win-



Recipe for success: Tricia Bidmead and Jo Stewart with their Menu Maker

instruction booklet is encouragingly thin and the women claim it can be learnt in about half an hour.

That claim is fairly accurate to get to a basic standard of use. Then once you're in, you can flick between more than 2,000 recipes. Each recipe card carries a series of boxes giving a list of ingredients, information on quantities. calories and preparation time, and the

If you use the search facility and call up chicken, 206 recipes then come up for you to choose between. You can narrow it down by putting in other ingredients, or by specifying a calorie limit, or you can widen the search again.

dows or an Apple Macintosh. The freezing and "kd" yields a list of food and is impressed. "The system works for children.

The recipes themselves are interesting, varying from basic family fare like simple spaghetti, rice pudding, to dinner party dishes like venison with pomegranate, or onion casserole with juniper berries. There are also hundreds of breads, biscuits, cakes, and puddings. Finally when you've found the menu you desire, just print it off and hot-foot

Jo Stewart and Tricia Bidmead have also produced a bigger version of the recipes and the facility to amend them.

Queen Élizabeth Hospital School in There's also a whole series of codes you Clifton, Bristol. He has to come up with years researching, trying out and adapt- can use for example tap in "st" and you menus for 700 meals a day for the pri-

very well," he says. "Before we used recipe books, which is a very labour intensive task.

Tve found it's cut down incredibly on wastage. Now we can phone up the markets and find out what offers they might have on meat or vegetables. It's good if you've got the ingredients to hand and you're not sure what to do with them. Also there are times when you want new ideas, something quick and easy to do.

But what about in the home? You software for commercial use, with more can't help feeling that it could end up a male toy, inducing men to take a Ian Joyner is catering manager at fanatical and temporary interest in cooking just because it involves the

So will it replace the cook books in get a list of recipes suitable as starters; vate school's 520 day pupils and board- some kitchens? Susan Pynegar, from "fr" will give you dishes suitable for ers. He has been using Menu Maker Nottingham, thinks so. She has used

Menu Maker for the past month, cooking for her family: "It's great fun to use and I find the system much quicker than using recipe books. Also it's very useful for entertaining - they're very original recipes. I did my Christmas menu from it.

I've got two small boys and a husband who comes in at any hour. And the boys are a bit finicky about their food - I'm not going to eat this or that. My husband is very concerned about losing some weight. With this I can keep a check on the calories."

Menu Maker is available by mail order, price £25 plus 1.25 p&p, from Recipe For Success, Greylands, Minchinhampton, Glos, GL6 9BN (01453 731313). A CD-Rom version is to be released

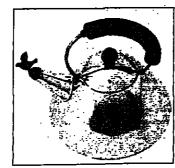
in September.

Six of the best kettles

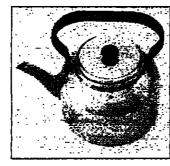


Copper hob kettle with wooden handle, £34.99. A very tradi-L tional looking kettle, perfect for leaving on the Aga in your farm house kitchen. Available from Selfridges, Oxford Street, London W1 (0171-629 1234).

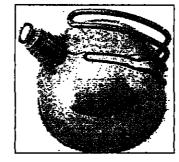
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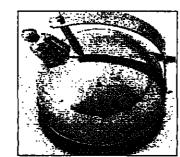
Alessi kettle with bird shaped whistle, £105. Very chic for those who like their designer finishing touches to extend into the kitchen. Available from Harrods, Knightsbridge, London SW1 (0171-730 1234).



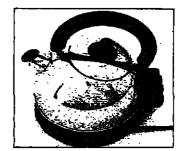
Camping kettle, £7.95. Very reasonably priced, for those Who like stylish accessories when they pitch tent. The Conran Shop, Michelin house, Fulham Road, London SW3 (0171-581 9692).



Whistling kettle, £24.95. A very stylish option, although users should be careful to use an oven glove as the alu-minium handle is tempting to pick up. The Conran Shop. Michelin house, Fulham Road, London SW3.



Magimix cordless kettle, 269.95. Looks as stylish as the hob-top kettles, but has the added bonus of being electric. Heal's, 196 Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (0171-636 1666).



Philips electric kettle, £44.99. A very good combination of Oattractive design and sturdy functionality. From branches of Allders department store nationwide. Enquiries 0181-256 7000.



For cultivators of the naff, the latest cringe-maker is the DIY diner kit

I fith the millennium ticking closer, twentieth century design is a smart invest-ment. Rock age buffs will be heading Saturday and Sunday (10.30am-6.30pm) the curtains will be drawn and up to 150 juke boxes will be glowing in the half-light in an attempt to seduce buyers.

with fizzing plastic bubble tubes designed by the legendary Paul Fuller - changed hands for £15,000 five years ago before crashing to £8,000. The 1015 is a classic of what the trade calls the Golden Age of juke boxes, 1939-53, when the records were 78rpm and Betty Made between the Thirties and early Sixties, been whisked into this growing and hotly

Grable draped herself over the warm plastic. More recognisable to today's generation of rockers are Silver Age models of 1953-68 for the Museum Suite of the Copthorne that play 45s and are in chromium plate rather than wood and plastic. A 1956 Wurlitzer Centennial 2000 might cost you £6,000. At the bottom of the price range: the 1970

Wurlitzer Statesman at £400-£500. Besides jukeboxes, which make up half the Like classic cars, juke boxes crashed in price in the recession but are now bopping back. The Wurlitzer 1015 of 1947 – the one armed bandits (a late Fifties Jennings Indian Head fetches £800), end-of pier What the Butler Saw machines (around £1,500) and old-fashioned All-Wins with the spring-fired ball bearing that goes bang-rattle-plink.

they are now back in fashion. One dealer who contested 20th century market. Last week was offering 300 of them for £6 each in the

Fifties now has only six left - at £300 each. One stand will offer only eccentric telephones. For cultivators of the naff, the latest cringe-maker is the DIY diner kit - mushroom stools, lashings of Formica and perhaps a genuine Thirties Coca-Cola refrigerator as supplied by the company to retailers (around £2,000). Further information: Twentieth Century Antique Promotions (tel/fax 01293-822469)

Christie's South Kensington is holding its first Modern Design auction next Saturday (11am). Post-1940 furniture that might otherwise be rubbing arms with pieces by Pugin in South Ken's regular furniture sales, has

saw Sotheby's first Design Since 1935 sale: it sold 69 per cent by value.

Among the current 20th century sales, South Ken's has the broadest range: it includes a 1963 Lambretta (£1,200-£1,600) and a 1964 Lichtenstein comic-strip litho-

graph (£1,000-£1,500). Best of the rest: at Christie's South Kensington, Friday (11am), autograph letters, including 60 menus from Royal residences signed by prime ministers and celebrities and collected by the Victorian author and traveller Lady Dorothy Nevill. South Ken's ridiculously low estimate of £150-£250 is bound to be exceeded.

John Windsor



Deople expect Avon ladies to look a bit glamorous, so it's on with the smart cords, a touch of Plum lipstick - Avon, of course, and a bit of blusher. Then, I load up the car with catalogues and deliveries, and off I go.

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Evenings or Sunday afternoons are my best times for catching people in. I'm on this new-ish housing estate and an awful lot of my ladies are working mums. I shouldn't say this, but I do think it's nice to see a mum at home with her baby. The best thing about this job is flexibility. You can do as much as you want to, when you want to. The only deadline is the date the orders have to be

in by.

I like meeting people and chatting and that's basically what I do. I've been an Avon Lady for four years and I've made so many friends, it's wonderful. I even go to the cinema with a couple of ladies. I've got a number of lonely old ladies who really just like looking at a catalogue and having someone to talk to.

The Embrace range of lingerie for the fuller figure is very popular. I suppose, going in to a shop and asking for a 42EE must be a bit embarrassing. I like to take the children. They are a big attraction. The chocolate and sweets they receive! I usually do my demonstrations in the lounge and my nine-year-old daughter loves my demonstration case and jewellery box full of samples. My son isn't quite so keen. He's six. He'd rather play football. The worst part of the job is going out in bad weather, particularly as I have about 150 customers. Not all of them order regularly. Well you can't expect someone to buy a foundation every time, can you?

I had no training. I was just told to put the brochures through the door and see what happened. I was fortunate. I've done really well. Avon send me a list of customers with each new catalogue. If I ring the bell and it turns out to be a gentleman living alone, I don't give up. Avon do some wonderful aftershaves, shower gels, mini toolkits and car accessories.

I get a lot of abuse from husbands - but only in fun. I turn up for money and they call me all sorts - that's probably one of the funniest parts, actually. I was nearly knocked down by an Irish wolf hound once, but the houses that have got dogs now know to keep them out of my way. There was even one lady who had a ferret.

There are those who throw the brochure back as soon as I put it through the door, which can be a bit upsetting. They just don't realise what's on offer. I get a real satisfaction from converting someone to Avon or when I've suggested something and it really has worked. It's wonderful.

My husband is used to all the Avon boxes around the house. Avon is such a part of our life. Friends and relations all get Avon for all their Christmas and birthday presents. They just laugh. My ambition is to work in PR or marketing - for Avon, of course, but only when the children are older.

Sally Williams



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Top Ten Funeral buys

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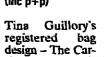
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£600 to £1500
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£5
£5
£16-£500
£3.74
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£3.99-£9.99
£29£33

Good thing

The Carrier, £27.00 (inc p+p)

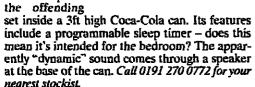


rier - grew from the fabric with which it's made. Tiua spotted the canvas while buying fabric for quilts. At home it was kitted out with four handles, one on each corner, and a tie. When folded and tied it's a capacious shopping bag. Opened flat it becomes a picnic mat, or a useful means of lugging weeds, cuttings or logs in from the garden. And once that's done you can shake off any loose mud or rinse it down with water. Call 01328 820699 for mail order.

Mad thing

Akura Coca-cola Can TV, £279.99

Designers are concerning themselves with ways you might conceal your television. Akura's solution is to place



Cashing in on the royal mail

The sale of the Queen's letters on 25 April will herald a renewed interest in Royal memorabilia. By John Windsor

he forthcoming auction of three handwritten letters by the Queen, describing her teenage romance with Prince Philip, is likely to bring to the surface some of the dottier and more scurrilous scribblings of 20thcentury British royals that have hitherto circulated discreetly among collector-dealers.

Among them an unpublished letter (see right) by the Duke of York, the future King George VI also known as Albert. Here he says he believes that the British (not the Jews) are the lost tribes of Israel - the "Chosen Race" - and one written by his brother, the future Edward VIII, during his Navy days, in which he complains: "I haven't had a fuck for a fortnight".

The Queen's letters are innocent enough. Written at the request of a royal biographer, they tell of the "great fun" she had on a spin to London, driven in an MG by the then Lt Mountbatten, and how they were chased by a photographer.

But such is the fear of Royal wrath among the big London auction houses that none of them would handle the letters. They are being sold on 25 April by a provincial auctioneer, the Clevedon Salerooms of Bristol, which has estimated them at £1,000-£1,500.

"Outrageous!" said a Sotheby's spokesperson. When we first heard of this sale, we thought it must be an April fool's joke." To which Marc Burridge, a Clevedon partner, retorts: "What have I got to lose - apart from my head?"

A Buckingham Palace spokesperson said she did not expect the Palace to ask for the letters to be withdrawn. Nevertheless, Palace paranoia at Sotheby's is almost tangible. It dates back to December 1979 when the firm tried to auction a bundle of Privy Council declarations that had been read out in Council by Edward VIII and George VI. The lots included a mirror-image, snatched from a Privy Council blotting pad, of George VI's first official signature as King. As soon as the auction catalogue appeared, Sotheby's received an icy telephone call from the Palace. Minutes later, an equerry whisked the papers away in a Royal lim-

The episode was made more poignant by the fact that, at the time, Sotheby's deputy chairman, the 15th Earl of Westmorland, was Master of the Queen's Horse - the third-highest rank in the Royal household. He became chairman of Sotheby's the next year. To this day, Sotheby's will sell no Royal letters written more recently than Edward VII's

As if to trump them in loyalty, Christie's told me they would sell nothing written later than

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ements on this

will be.

(Both 24 Hours) B. Ha

DO YOU BELIEVE IN

Queen Victoria's death. The result of such obsequiousness is that the trade in 20th-century "Royal memorabilia" has been driven into provincial salerooms, meetings of collector-dealers and their privately circulated mail-order cata-

logues.
I first encountered the Duke of York's "Chosen Race" letter, written in 1922, a year ago at a buy, sell and swap meeting of the Universal Autograph Collectors Club. It was being offered for £400 by the London rare book

and manuscript dealer Julian Browning. Since then, it has changed hands twice. It is now being offered for £1,250 by the Oxford book dealer Roy Davids.

As for his brother's pre-First World War letter complaining about his bleak fortnight, that was among a batch of the future King's letters sent for sale at Sotheby's not long after the Privy Council papers scanda). The auctioneers lost no time in sending it back to its owner.

It is the sort of letter that, in today's newly liberalised market for Royal memorabilia, is likely to re-surface. There are signs that even London auctioneers are loosening up. On 12 April, Christie's South Kensington will offer 22 letters by Edward VIII, which he wrote to a friend while at Oxford during the First World War. South Ken is wary of selling anything "that might offend" but has a longstanding agreement with the Palace: documents of dead Royals may be sold, but none written by the living later than 1938 (which just includes signed photographs of the 1937 coronation).

The 22 Edward VIII letters describe beagling, shooting parties, dinners and dances and, most interestingly, express his hatred for the "Boches" From the man who was to be accused of fraternising with the Nazis following his abdication in 1936, there is: "What a bloody existence mine is. How long this will last, God only knows; we must smash these Germans". The collection is estimated at £3,000-£4,000. In June, a hardened chunk of Prince Charles and

Lady Diana's wedding cake will be offered for an estimated £200-£300 at Dominic Winter, the Swindon book auctioneers. Winter had a sniff of the Queen's letters. The vendor approached Winter first, apparently tempted by the firm's much-publicised sale of a batch of five Royal Christmas cards, including cards from the Queen and Prince Philip, Prince Charles and Princess Diana. Though torn,

they fetched £280 the lot. Royal Christmas cards are the staple of the Royal memorabilia trade. They are not regarded as "sensitive" and occasionally crop up in London auctions. The biggest dealer in such ephemera is Sophie Dupré of Calne, Wiltshire. For £30 she will sell you a letter from a princess such as Victoria Alexandra, daughter of Edward VII, or the signature of a monarch - William IV, say. Ms Dupré will not be bidding for the Queen's letters. She fears that her regular customers, who are devoted to the Royal family, might disapprove. And Mr Browning, seemed grateful to see the last of his "Chosen Race" letter. He has built a reputation as a dealer in early Elizabethan letters and regards Royal letters written within living memory, especially those by living Royals, as "private and possibly troublesome". Ms Dupré adds: "How would you like your letters to be published all over the place?"

Clevedon Salerooms (01275-876699): Roy Davids (01844-279154): Julian Browning (0171-286 6034) UACC, Roy Deeley (01483-232423): Dominic Winter (01793-611340): Sophie Dupré (01249-821121).

Detail & Inset: Letter, written in 1922. in which Albert, the Duke of York and future King declares "I am sure the British Israelite business is true. I have read a lot about it late ly and everything no matter how large or small points to our being 'the Chosen Race'". The British Isrealite theory was not a fantasy of his alone. Coniecture that the 10 lost tribes of israel reappeared in Britain dates from Victorian times.

Edward Webb

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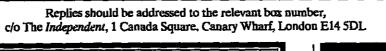
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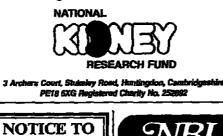
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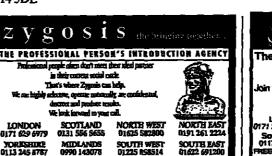
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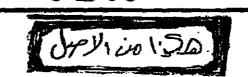
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There

'Where are the Potters of today?' people asked, even when there was a Potter of today

otter: a legacy of swearing text but had also just announced it was going to watch its language. You accompanied might have been enjoy this new vent for the magma anyone does. A man's posthumous exquisitely at the points where that paper likes to have a good scratch.

A playwright who had been, for them, a living affront to decency had brought off one last outrage after his death, a posthumous stab at the delicate cancibilities of Middle Free icate sensibilities of Middle England. In doing it, what's more, he had opened the way for a fresh assault on two of the paper's favourite targets, Channel 4 and the BBC. The scripts for Cold Lazarus and Kanaoke, Potter's last two works surrounded it, prompted some for television, are reported to contain no less than 40 "f-words", something of an embarrassment for the BBC in particular, which had made deathbed promises about the

ran a caption in the Daily

Mail this week. The story it

mpanied might have been enjoy this new years for the story in the day of the story in the story it is that the Daily Mail would be said is that the Daily Mail has as good a claim over title to the latter as of outrage, but naturally it wasn't reputation is a thing of common going to concede any surprise at the ownership, shaped by competing reading of the playwright's aesthetic will. He had, it wrote, "lived

"legacy" and "reputation" - as if I would think, as those for whom they were pretty much interchangeable, but their article, and synonymous with great television the minor froth about Potter that thoughts about exactly what it is that an artist leaves behind when they die - what, in a larger sense, is the distinction between a "legacy" and a "reputation".

tugs and stretches at its fabric. And thanks to the unstinting efforts of up to his reputation". The implication was that the language of the plays wasn't a matter of literary need, just a malicious codicil.

The Daily Mail used both words

"leaguer" and "reputation"—as if (just as unreflectively) his name is writer" or "exemplar of artistic integrity". Those who want to

defend the gravity of television - its potential for high seriousness -

have a strong interest in polishing

over the fact that the finest work

Potter's reputation, in glossing



he did on television in the last five years of his life was that interview with Melvyn Bragg, an encounter in which he appeared to burn his small remaining reserves of vital-ity with reckless prodigality.

So for supporters the screening of the two last plays is attended with or damage the reputation? Will we great wealth was based on paper profits, that the assets were all mortgaged? Already there are lit-

hope, or Potter's own terminal reswatch them without thinking of the phine has on self-criticism.) In the foreword to the printed text of the two plays, Potter described the works as a "summation" and "testament" to his career. The last word has overtones of the solicitor's office, but the phrase he conspicu-

ously doesn't use is "legacy". In one sense, though, that is a certain anxiety-will they enhance clearly what these two plays are, a final revelation of artistic wealth. discover that the obituary talk of And while an artistic legacy can be affected by a reputation, there is also something inflexibly concrete about it, less susceptible to fond tle whispers of damage limitation memory or wishful thinking. A Look for his influence on television

in the air, rumours that suggest the reality may not quite match the much closer to the unsentimental little more than the Allied Dunbar pounds-and-pence tally that you olution. (I haven't seen the plays yet myself, but it will be difficult to wills—the bottom line on a life that will not earn or spend any more. notoriously softening effect mor- In this respect the executors are still waiting to do their work on Potter's affairs, waiting for the last books to be thrown open.

Without these two works in bleak – a good case of a reputation (for influence and artistic example) which is far in advance of the actual legacy. Indeed, Potter's name is mostly invoked to identify the absence of any line of inheritance. "Where are the Potters of even when there was a perfectly suitable Potter of today still extant.

adverts ("There may be trouble ahead"), a casual borrowing which Potter, in his savage anti-commercialism, would have despised but which, according to his fiercer critics, perfectly matches his own appropriation of other talents for his own emotional ends.

The screening of Cold Lazarus prospect things might look a little and Karaoke may change that perception yet, may well vindicate those who believe that his reputation should be for ambition, invention and a highly moral sense of mischief, rather than just a childish desire to offend. It won't actually change his reputation as far as the Daily Mail is concerned, natu-

Nights of passion with one really bad, bad girl

Nobody does it for your insides like Sondheim does. And nobody does it for Sondheim like Maria Friedman. By Edward Seckerson



first noticed Maria Friedman in a show called Blues in the Night. Hard to miss her, really. She was the white girl. Very white, very blonde. Hot voice. Well, we thought so: she didn't. "I spent most of the rehearsal period retreating to my dressing-room and weeping. There I was from a background of classical music singing the blues with three black singers whose whole history was gospel and soul. It was in their blood. Hell, what was I doing there? I tried copying them - I tried the scatting, the improvising. Big mistake. Then it finally dawned. Look, I'm a white English girl singing American music. I can only make it

musical and heartfelt... So there she was, the first preview, nervous as hell, but heartfelt, when this voice from the gallery yells, "Sing, ya bitch!" Back to the dressing-room. More tears. More self-recriminations. But at the interval, co-star Carole Woods is hanging on her door: "Way to go, girl!" Apparently. "Sing, ya bitch" is right up there with "Diva" or "You're bad" in the compliment stakes. So Maria Friedman was bad, really bad. And that was good. "I'd learnt a valuable lesson: you can only tap into what you have to say, what you've got to offer. I needed to go far enough down the wrong road to bring me very

swiftly to the right one. Which was not, as her parents might have envisaged, the straight and narrow path to a classical career. Her father Leonard (who died only last year) was an accomplished violinist, and you'll find her brother Richard occupying the leader's chair in a number of London orchestras, among them the New Queen's Hall Orchestra. The plan was for Maria to become a cellist. And we're not talking rank and file. But Maria was impatient. It was the old story; her musicality romped ahead of her technical ability. She was, by temperament, a soloist, but in practice she was not about to buckle down to the kind of rigorous regimes that a solo career (to say nothing of her parents) demanded. "I couldn't isolate myself in that way. And it was frustrating. I had something to say, but not the means to say it. Actually, it was only when I began working as an actress that I realised what the problem was. I'm very disciplined as an actress, but it's a different kind of discipline. You do a lot of work in your head, a lot of work when you're walking, gardening, cooking, socialising. You are part of

the real world, not locked away from it." So there was the solution: become an actress and see the world. The real world. How's that for a paradox. But then think of the millions for whom Maria Friedman was the social worker Trish Baynes in BBC TV's Casualty. When art imitates life, who's to say where one ends and the other begins? But Friedman is a realist. With a secret weapon; her music. She brings her musicality to her acting, and vice versa - the one feeds the other. And it's a potent combination. Watch her as Fosca in Stephen Sondheim's Pussion, an extraordinary performance (and an extraordinary physical transformation - not so very white, not so very blonde) currently on display at the Queen's Theatre. There's an "operatic" quality to her to have a good ear for harmony, for where the

performance. She has such expressive hands: it's like she's forming the words with her hands, shaping them, releasing them. And the voice: there's so much tension in the line, you feel it could snap. It's dangerous, this highly strung quality. Dangerous but intoxicating. If there is a break in the voice, the ear doesn't hear it: this lady belts into the stratosphere.

You're right - I don't appear to have a break in the voice. It's a natural mix between chest and head right up to B flat. I'm lucky. I don't have to think about it, I don't have that problem of leaving my chest voice and going into a kind of choir-boy top... it's a muscle that works for me. But, you know, I still don't consider that I have a voice, at least not in the sense that real singers have voices. I prefer to call myself a communicator. The most important thing for me is that it means something, that the thought and word are carried forward on the musical line. I'm not interested in changing the vowel sound - you know, like opera singers do - to make the most beautiful sound possible. I don't mind ugly sounds or shocking sounds. It's more important to me that the sounds reflect my thoughts - so if it's a romantic thought, I'll put more air in the voice. Don't get me wrong, it's not colouring by numbers, but your speaking voice does change according to what you're expressing. So it's the same with singing. And I believe that you should sing only when the emotional stakes

are so high that you can no longer speak." Now there's a remark. Is that Maria Friedman talking, or Stephen Sondheim? Either way, it goes to the very heart of what the book-and-song" musical is - or should be all about: the word made song made flesh. And, as Friedman herself puts it, "Nobody does it for your insides like Sondheim does." They first met following a benefit at Drury Lane where she sang "Broadway Baby" from Follies. "He found me at the party afterwards and said: Who are you?' Not much of an opening line, but I thought I'd died and gone to heaven." She was at the National Theatre in a play called Ghetto at the time. Sondheim caught it the following night and, unbeknown to her, lobbied for her to play Dot in the National Theatre's forthcoming production of Sunday in the Park

with George. She had died and gone to heaven. And in the words of the song from that show, it was suddenly a case of "Stop worrying where you're going - move on." Nobody does it for your insides like Sondheim, but nobody does it for your vocal cords like him, either. the muscularity, the complex rhythms, the odd to the last. Is that all? and demanding intervals of his vocal writing. She isn't at all fazed by it, she doesn't consider it "It all comes from somewhere; there's a reason for every note. It's only problematic if you don't carry the sense, the thought, into the vocal line. You need to be strong, you need a solid instrument, a good range, quick reflexes: the mood might change seven or eight times in one song - you can be saying one thing, thinking another, doing another, all in one phrase. And perfect intonation. Very important. You have





The many faces of Maria Friedman: relaxing in her dressing-room at the Queen's; as Trish Baynes in Casualty; and as Fosca, the tortured heroine of Sondheim's Passion

chords are pulling you. So that, for example, an F sharp flattens to become more of a G flat because the chord is G flat." Singing actress? Acting musicologist, more like.

Friedman is inquisitive by nature. She asks a lot of questions of her material. You hear it in the phrasing. Singing the song isn't enough, she has to perform it. When she was at school. they wouldn't have her in the choir, but there was this one "mad" music teacher who'd dig out classic songs and pass them round the class like sweets. And once a term, each pupil would get to do their song. Maria's always went down well.

But they had to be the right songs. Just as they have to be the right parts. New work - new plays, new songs - that's important to her. To be up there at the sharp end. She isn't worried about "so-called failures" (and she's known a few), so long as the challenge is really worth the taking. When she put together her Olivier Award-winning one woman show Maria Friedman by Special Arrangement (and by fair means and foul, a conspiracy of friends and associates press-ganged her into that one), she was all too aware that every single number, every choice she made, was saying something about herself. This time it really was personal. Sondheim himself gave her notes. One in particular struck home. She had to think of the show as more than a collection of songs, but rather as one Every number a work-out. Friedman thrives on song, one great stretch from the first she sang

"You know, I was thinking on my way to the theatre today how difficult it is to get a handle it un-vocal. I don't suppose it is, if you can sing on life - to order it and shape it. But when you're in a show, that's exactly what you get to do for the two hours or so on stage. During that time, you are in control. It's a beautiful way of ordering and crystallising your feelings and sharing them with your audience. I always feel that they're me and I'm them, and we're one. That makes my heart beat faster." Ours, too.

> 'Passion' is at the Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040)



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TELEVISION Eskimo Day (BBC1)

Jack Rosenthal hits the spot with his portrayal of family tensions. By Jasper Rees

skimo Day, about parents escorting their children to university interviews, was set in Cambridge because these things always are. Unless they're set in Oxford. WGBH Boston would doubtless have balked at stumping up co-production funds for a script set anywhere else. Just this once Cambridge was thematically as well as financially the logical choice. The rite of passage Jack Rosenthal put his characters through – the moment when parents realise their children don't need them – happens to every family. Locating it at an ancient university strapped an extended of happens to the poof rank.

extra load of baggage to the roof-rack.

The two families the drama mainly followed hailed from either side of the Watford Gap, allowing fresh oppositions on the usual subjects: class, education, money. In one dialogue between the fathers Tom Wikinson's transpired out the fathers. fathers, Tom Wilkinson's tyrannical southerner and David Ross's pliant northerner, the tables were beautifully turned: while dad from Blackburn boasted of taking his son to every Rovers' home game, the Cheltenham pater dredged up a memory of chaperoning his daughter to horse trials at 11. "That's just one at random," he blustered, but from that hint you knew it was the only one.

The script carefully posted its various parents at different points on the pH scale of ghastliness, but they all contrived to cause maximum exasperation in their offspring. Only when released from the urge to vent their spleen did the two interviewees, queuing on the staircase together, get to unmask a need for approval. "Do you like Blur?" asked one. "Do you?" came the defensive reply.

You could possibly land Rosenthal in the dock for erring towards the diagrammatic in his portrait of Slighty. A more the minor characters, two more

of filiality. Among the minor characters, two more young hopefuls were diametrically opposed: a tart girl with a hands-on dad and a vague boy with a hands-off mum. And in the sub-plot about the interviewing don with a parental problem of his own (a satisfying cameo twirl for Alec Guinness). Rosenthal perhaps took his theme that every child turns into their parent a little too literally: how many dons are actually sons of dons?

Cambridge fully justified its presence in a satisfying denouement in which Wilkinson's character's boast of attending the old alma mater turned out to be hollow. If this felt implausible, let us not forget Jeffrey Archer's fictional debut as a student of Oxford University. The only Oxford character here, incidentally, was a BA going for an interview as a waitress. Trust the other place to bring a shaft of realism to the cobbled streets of light comedy.

CLASSICAL MUSIC New London Consort

Music for Holy Week, originally intended for a north Italian church, made for a performance of delicate artistry and secure musicianship. By Andrew Stewart



Ringing in the old: the New London Consort celebrate Passiontide according to the ancient rites of Cividale del Friuli

of 13th-century religious dramas and then present the results in the near-alien environment of a modern concert hall. Philip Pickett is no stranger to musical archaeology. His latest excavations have uncovered a sequence of works originally intended for per-formance in Holy Week at the collegiate church of S Maria Assunta in the northern Italian town of Cividale del Friuli, magnificently revived by the New London Cividale del Privili, magnificently

The emotional heart of Pickett's Cividale discoveries is supplied by two Easter dramas, one dealing with the laments of Mary at the Cross, the other with the visitation of Mary Magdalene to the holy sepulchre. These were framed with a variety of processional hymns, chants and simple polyphonic pieces, performed by a dozen singers dressed austerely in white robes and cowls. A chamber organ, unfussily played by David Roblou, and three handbells provided occasional contrast, while the dramas were done by a small team of first-class solo voices. The whole package was staged with the minimum of props and the greatest dignity.

One could argue without fear of contradiction in this life that the Cividale dramas have never been performed with such delicate artistry and secure musicianship as here, qualities obvious from the first processional hymn "Gloria laus" and reinforced soon after in the beautiful "O crux gloriosa", its sensuous melodic undulations phrased with subtle charm. At the veneration of the cross, the unaffected, folk-song nature of "Pange, lingua, gloriosi" was

It takes considerable faith to transcribe an obscure manuscript established immediately by the New London Consort, immaculate in its ensemble and finely balanced, but also responsive to the

hymn's vivid textual imagery.
Simon Grant's eloquent solo delivery of "Velum templi scissum est", a powerful musical description of the rending of the temple's veil and the dialogue between Jesus and the thief, was almost too cultivated and poised to register the full drama of the narrative. I can think of a few slightly seedy priests from nameless parishes who might struggle to negotiate the chant's tricky vocal line but who, by God, would deliver its impassioned words as if they were their own. The soloists in the Easter dramas, singing from memory, offered a captivating balance of tonal beauty and textual expression, with Catherine Bott outstanding as the Blessed Virgin in the "Planctus Mariae". Unaccompanied singing may not be the only test of a good voice, but it surely tells whether a performer can communicate with and hold an audience. Bott's beautiful, intelligent and entirely persuasive account of Mary's grief was genuinely moving, her mezza vocc control and wide range of vocal colour adding to the intensity of the drama.

Philip Pickett, looking suitably monkish as the ruler of the choir, intervened only as required, offering a downbeat here or elsewhere gently tapping a handbell at a significant moment in the darama. Nice work if you can get it. But then rickett's effort in the darama. been skilfully directed into the transcription of the source material and, clearly, into the thorough preparation of his singers.

THEATRE The Fruit Has Turned... Young Vic

Adrian Turpin watches a postmodem homage to the sitcom 'Dad's Army'

ad's Army has a lot to answer for. For me, it was a decade of gloomy television as a child and 20 years of mournful repeats ever since. And now, just as the spectre of Captain Mainwaring seemed to have receded for ever. along comes Scarlet Theatre's The Fruit Has Turned to Jam in the Fields, a curious postmodern hommage to the La Frenais / Clement sitcom.

For anyone who hasn't seen the original (if that's possible), it was essentially Bilko with ration books. Mainwaring, a self-important bank manager, leads Warmington-on-Sea's Home Guard in the 1939-1945 war. Sergeant Wilson. Mainwaring's second-in-command, is ineffectual but intrinsically decent, while Wilson's step-nephery Piles the pletoen's recognize them here is nephew Pike, the platoon's youngest member, is an innocent abroad, if not idiot child. What the all-women Scarlet Theatre have done in this semi-devised piece is to take this scenario and reflect it in a series of distorting mirrors. The sitcom's cosy war has been replaced by a vaguely apocalyptic conflict, and Mainwaring, Wilson and Pike have become Mandarin, Winsome and Trout, alter egos of three librarians cut off from the world in other conflict. the world in what seems to be a country library.

They spend much time leaping in and out of cupboards. They slip swiftly between their sitcom personae and what remains of their pre-war characters. They fantasise about clothes made of Liberty floral lawn and about marrying one another. There's an erotic tussle for a half-sucked humbug. They quote John Donne and talk a lot about being sweet bushes about to be plucked. In short,

they digress, then digress from their digressions. Basing characters on Mainwaring, Wilson and Pike isn't quite as crazy as it first seems. There's dramatic mileage in this trio of toy soldiers - the proud, the semi-detached, the frightened especially when the librarians' desperate high spirits are conveyed with such gusto as here by Amanda Hadingue, Jane Guernier and Maeve Larkin. But as the play moves from a major to a deadly minor key, energetic charm isn't enough to tie it together. It's like standing by a dance floor watching others lose themselves in music. First you will them on, excited by their excitement. Then you wonder what drives them on. And, finally, there's a sense of exclusion, faced with someone else's secret, imponderable, self-indulgent pleasure.

Young Vic Studio, Landon SE1 (0171-928 6363) to 20 April, then on tour



'I was raised in an awful place called Brooklyn, New York. I had no trinkets at all'

very young girl who would much Drather be out skipping through wild flowers in a spring field than being showbiz. screamed at by 30 journalists at the "I had Landmark Hotel in Marylebone. Maybe I am being duped. Maybe the moment Barry Manilow is out of sight he stops the fragile bunny routine and starts yelling angrily at his servants. But Barry, I am convinced, is delightful to his very core, and when it all goes horribly wrong and the journos turn against him like a pack of wild dogs, my heart goes out to him. It is Tuesday, and Barry has just announced his intention

Trust. He wants to help poor youngsters and give them tips about how to get into

"I had nothing," he whispers. "I was raised in an awful place called Brooklyn, New York, which was just awful. I had no trinkets at all. No trinkets."

"Poor Barry, no trinkets," I discover myself saying, with no malice. My child-hood suffered from a trinket deficiency also (assuming that Barry's definition of a "trinket" is the same as mine thimbles, little silver knick-knacks and such) but one gets the feeling that Barry would have more of an urgent need for young people of today?"

ceive. Barry Manilow is, indubitably, a trinket type.

So, just as I'm catching his eye and giving him a private cheering smile, the barrage begins. Somehow, an unspoken resolution has been made among the press pack - to be scornful of Barry Manilow and all that he says.

"Have you heard of Oasis?

"How can you appeal to youngsters if you've never heard of Oasis?"

What on Earth can you offer to

Barry wails. "Honestly. I mean it. I

"And what will you tell them?" "How to be famous," squeaks Barry.

"Phhhwhhh." At first this mordant nastiness is a welcome relief from the usual celebrity press-conference scenario, which is customarily played out like a tennis match between the Care Bear Bunch, questions and answers volleyed around like little bundles of joy. But today there is an anger in the air, which came from nowhere and is making two people in

the room very unhappy: Barry, and a

who rises to his feet, surveys the room with a steely fury, and asks his question. "Can I just begin by saying," he snaps, "how marvellous you look today." A

small gasp goes up around the crowd. "It is lovely to see you." he contin-ues. "Especially looking so healthy and

full of colour. This is my question...' The room fails strangely silent.

"How do you manage," says the man, "to keep so healthy looking?" There is a long pause. "Good health and happiness," replies

Barry, quietly. Barry looks at the man for a moment

party Manilow looks - close up - like to be an ambassador for the Prince's trinkets than most of us could ever con- "I just want to go around schools," middle-aged man from Flicks magazine, and they seem to share a common understanding

"Thank you," says the man. "Thank уоц, Вагту. And then it begins again.

"Do you honestly see a role for the Royal Family in today's modern society?" asks the man from the Daily Star, chuckling quietly. "How can you asso-ciate yourself with such an outdated

institution?" An audible gasp is heard from the crowd, now suitably admonished.

"I won't answer that question," says Barry firmly, flashing a sudden gaze of disgust at the throng, "Next?"



A good life, a bad death... Reports of the murder in Cyprus of Danish tour guide Louise Jensen have focused on the brutality of the British soldiers who killed her. Robert Fisk tells her side of the story

Plus: Candia McWilliam on Doris Lessing's new romance

And the great Jackie O sale: Geraldine Norman's exclusive preview

IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY







THE PLAY **CLOCKS AND WHISTLES**

THE FILM SMALL FACES

THE MUSICAL LADY INTO FOX

overview

Samuel Adamson's elliptical and imnic debut about twentysomethings and the demands of friendship and sexual identity marks artistic director Dominic Dromgoole's departure from

Counterbalancing Hollywood's "Killers in Kilts" view of Scotland (Braveheart) comes Gillies Mackinnon's coming-ofage story written with his brother Billy about three Glaswegian brothers in the

Adam Mars-Jones admired visually

charm, ounces of sharp observation

accomplished film-making with a "bona fide family tragedy plot": "Pounds of

Leah Hausman directs Dale Rapley and Louise Gold in Neil Bartlett and Nicolas Bloomfield's Intimate musical adaptation of the mysterious novellaby David Garnett about a woman who inexplicably turns into a fox...

Clare Bayley was entranced. The story is fabulous ... In every aspect the

critical

KEY EXCELLENT GOOD d OK d POOR A

DEADLY

view

Paul Taylor praised its "knowing, allusive comedy ... not without blemishes but it's a promising play. "Profound, subtle and full of human: insight ... sparkles with surface hilarity," cheered the New Statesm "Dromgoole has discovered yet another striking, sophisticated dramatist ... puts one in mind of Isherwood's Berlin," saluted the Times: "Little touches that make an already touching and amusing play delicious," smiled the FT. "A fittuling entertaining and notably well-acted produced," sniffed the Telegraph.

and several grams of wit," declared the FT. "Unsentimental honesty ... funny and engrossing ... very moving," No 1 Choice, Time Out, "A finely crafted and powerful evocation of childhood ... the Mackinion brothers clearly write from the heart," heralded the Times, "The way it turns from cornedy into darkness

shows a pretty clear eye," approved the Guardian. "A very wondrous film," breathed the New Statesman.

production works splendidly," "Peculiar, fantastic, erotic. The music shimmers with unresolved tensions," declared the FT. "Gloriously unpredictable ... an evening full of both bank and bite ... reaches its climax in a scene of quite appalling erotic electricity," sang the Guardian. "Splendidly sombre and Bloomfield's music is especially begulling praised Time Out. So marvellously odd and refreshingly original that it seems ungrateful to mumble " marvellously or grumble," grumbled the Times.

on view

At the Bush Theatre, London W12 (0181-743 3388) until 27 April.

At the Warner West End (0171-437 4343) and across the country.

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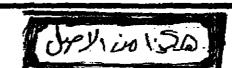
our view

26-year-old Adamson's play is a fitting close to Dromgoole's rich and memorable period as artıstic director. He wil be succeeded by Mike

Winner of Best British Film award at last Festival with a notab performance from Clare

A pungent and powerful cross between a ghost story and a vividly natic song-cycle.





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Despatches from Dragon Land

Is the travel book doomed to vanish up the Limpopo? Philip Marsden celebrates the vivid diversity of literary voyaging

he travel book is dead. Travel writing once had its place in literature, but no more. Now that we choose our destinations like exotic fruit in a supermarket, we do not need to read about them. Guide books are what's required, not travel books. At some point in the middle of the 1980s, travel writing experienced a great boom in its numbers, stripped its habitat bare, and no amount of scavenging in faraway places could provide it with sufficient nourishment.

At about the same time, and adding to this fatal fecundity, I helped to edit an anthology of travel writing for the Speciator. Now, skimming down the contents page of the book, I can see the position was already clear: "The Lost Art of Travel Writing".
"Ruined by the Holiday Writers". "Is the Travel Book Dead?" Yet this last piece, by Kingsley Amis, had been written in 1955; a decade earlier, Evelyn Waugh had also pronounced the end of travel writing, citing the vulgar ease of modern travel.

That some of the century's finest travel books

were yet to be published is a gratifying riposte to these two crabby old reactionaries. It is my contention - and there is more than a hint of selfdefence in it - that rather than kill off travel writing, mass travel has actually improved it. Forced out of the literalism that spawned it, travel writing has had to try harder, to become more inventive. But going further, finding the most remote places to visit, and ever more bizarre ways to get there, never by itself made a travel book any better.

For me the delight of travel began with Nasa's Apollo 11. A keen astronomer, I was spending every cloudless night with a telescope pointed up out of my bedroom window. I was eight-and-a-quarter and driven less by the spirit of scientific inquiry (I couldn't make head nor tail of the astronomy books) than by the dizzying idea of space. I remember the anticipation of the take-off, the four-day journey, the fuzz of the black-and-white TV. I remember Neil Armstrong hopping about like a bell-diver and a strange feeling of disappointment. It reminded me of a cross between Dr Who and Tintin. The moon landing, as JG Ballard has said, was not what it should have been because we'd all been there before; science fiction had got there first.

The story of literary travel-writing has been one of a similar struggle between wonder and disappointment, between discovery and scepticism. In the beginning it was easy. Accounts of the classical geographers, of Marco Polo and Sir John Mandeville, found a ready audience. The chap-books of 16thcentury Europe were full of places where men crept across the savannah with eyes in their chest, airborne dragons filled the sky, and rivers flowed only on Saturdays. No one questioned the veracity of these stories. Creation, it was assumed, would always exceed man's ability to invent it.

With the Enlightenment came a less credulous African explorers, James Bruce, returned from Abyssinia in the late 18th century, his account of the country's excesses -though subsequently proved accurate - was dismissed as a pack of lies.

As a result Victorian travellers adopted a rigorously sceptical attitude. They took with them the baggage of their age - the analogue equipment for measuring things, the Linnaean system for naming them. They wanted to shoot game and save souls, discover places and call them Victoria; they endured fabulous hardships with the coolest of heads. They wrote knowing it was sufficient just to have been to outlandish places, and their books as a result are largely unreadable. In the hands of most Victorian travellers, the poetic myth of the journey was sacrificed for a prosaic record of achievement. A few books stand out from these dry accounts - George Borrow wrote some of them, Kinglake another his Eothen launched the modern travel book. Published in 1844, as a rough-edged account of a Levantine journey, it actually took nine years to write and belies a precise structure, and a wealth of ideas that still seem fresh.

& 4 ...

It is a peculiar feature of travel writing that it doesn't travel. Classic travel books in this country remain unheard of in the United States. Theroux and Bryson have had to come over here to do it. influential travel book of its time.



Even in Europe, only the Dutch seem to see the point. Why this is so is the source of much saloon bar debate; there is some consensus that if travel is escape, then the English are escaping the strange antics of their class system.

If that is so, it would help to explain the great number of literary refugees in the inter-war years. Lawrence, Huxley, Durrell, Graves were all in some way escaping the bourgeoisie. Whereas many of superiority abroad, this new generation was less convinced. Graham Greene, by his own admission. travelled out of boredom and in search of fear. Evelyn Waugh out of impecunity and in search of jokes. These writers as a rule were not good travellers; the rigours of hard travel became less a badge of merit than the source of defensive humour. But their doubts and humanity generally made for much better travel books.

The most enduring of the 1930s travel writers, however, was not a novelist. Robert Byron travelled more like the Victorians, suffering great discomfort and concerning himself with the march of civilisation. His impetus was intellectual; he was always a traveller with a thesis. Now that moving around was becoming quicker (In First Russia, Then Tibet, Byron takes one of the first passenger planes to India), the exploration of the links between places grew more important than their physical distance. The Road to Oxiana is an attempt to trace the origins of Islamic architecture, but it is not this that makes it memorable. It is the chance encounters. the masterly reconstruction of the ironies and mishaps that characterise a real journey. Like Eothen, The Road to Ociana appears simple but is finely-wrought; and like Eothen, it remains the most

While travel books continued to be published after the war - Freya Stark, Rose Macauley and Norman Lewis, among others, maintained a steady stream of them - the mid-Seventies saw the start of a new phase. The Sixties had changed everything; travelling had become a mass rite of passage, and it was no surprise that the travel boom was followed by a travel-writing boom; the two have always developed in parallel. But what has been remarkable is age and the earth shrank. When the first of the great their forebears found confirmation of their own the revolution in form. With the linear journey now commonplace, the travel book began to move beyond its borders to snatch corners of neighbouring genres. Journeys were springboards for

more or less anything. Those books which simply report a journey have tended not to survive and the enduring works have been those which are something else. Jonathan Raban's Coasting is as much autobiography as travel; Andrew Harvey's A Journey in Ladakh is a spiritual quest. Likewise, the past has become another place to explore, and the works of Jan Morris and Colin Thubron have contributed more to an understanding of their subjects than any num-

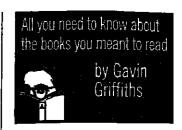
ber of self-defensive and turgid academic tomes. When Bruce Chatwin died in 1989, Colin Thubron wrote that if there was some feature common to his work, it was a fascination with the bizarrerie of the world. But in attempting to express it Chatwin found the traditional tag of "travel writer" wildly inappropriate. His travel writing drew liberally on the imagination, and in both The Viceroy of Outdah and Songlines, his fiction grew out of his travels. Yet rather than escaping the confines of travel writing, Chatwin simply highlighted its enormous possibilities.

It has been said that modern travel writers are failed novelists, that lacking the imagination to concoct stories in their own room, they have to go in search of them. To this I would plead: guilty! I would pather have five minutes of a stranger's life than all the books in the world. Room-bound novelists are surely unfulfilled travel writers; works of pure imagination vill always pale beside the real world and even Coleridge drew on James Bruce's travels for "Kubia Khan".

The earth is shrinking, fast becoming covered with a sort of patterned carpet of conformity, but it is still very big. True, we can get to most countries in less than a day; true, when we get there we will probably find everyone wearing Reeboks. But this is veneer. The world has not lost its capacity to surprise. It remains possible to be sent reeling by the sudden revelation of another life, by the glimpse of a world unimaginably different from our own. Travel writing, at its best, reflects both the surface of things and their essence, eschews literalism for more abstract truths, and in doing so reminds us not only of man's diversity but also our underlying similarities.

Last summer, in a village on the Russian steppe, a woman was telling me of the life of lies under Soviet rule. "But I suppose governments tell lies everywhere," she sighed. "I mean, did you see those men on the moon? Well, they didn't go to the moon at all you know. They took them to some place and just said it was the moon." And perhaps there's more revealed in that statement than in the whole of the Nasa space programme.

> Philip Marsden is the author of 'The Crossing Place: A Journey among the Armenians' (Flamingo) and the highly acclaimed 'The Bronski House' (HarperCollins). An extended version of this article appears in the new issue of W, the quarterly magazine from Waterstones



PORTRAIT OF A LADY (1881) by Henry James

Plot: The "portrait" depicts Isabel Archer, a poorish New Englander who is whisked away by her rich aunt to Europe, and into a wealthy and cultured society. Our heroine has éclat: she is clever and beautiful and is soon pursued by two "princes" - Caspar Goodwood, an American businessman who personifies "hard materialism". Lord Warburton, an effete English liberal - and a monster: Gilbert Osmond, an American ex-patriate who loves beauty but has a soul of flint. He is accompanied by his daughter, Pansy, and the sleekly gruesome Madame Merle. Isabel opts for the ogre believing he will make her cultured. Instead he proves to be a frigid collector who imprisons her in good taste. Eventually Isabel realises that Merle is Osmond's mistress, and Pansy is their child. Isabel realises her mistake, but to protect Pansy, finally decides to spent the rest of her life immured with Osmond.

Theme: "A young woman affronting her destiny" (James). If Isabel is free to choose, she is free to choose wrongly. Even her final self-sacrifice is morally questionable. Americans have energy and innocence, Europeans sophistication and art. They speak different languages.

Style: The prose "depends for its effect a good deal on the sound of a voice, painfully explaining... the complication is due to a determination not to simplify and lose any of the by-paths of mental movement" (TS Eliot).

Chief strengths: James is the "historian of fine consciences" (Conrad). James' characters think intelligently about the labyrinth of their lives, but are still capable of getting lost. Isabel begins as a prig but grows through suffering - the pat formula of cheap fiction is well reworked as high tragedy.

Chief weakness: As James explores Isabel's mind, the novel loses its grip on the

What they thought of it then: The novel was relatively popular and gave James a glimpse of the fame that he craved all his life.

What we think of it now: Admired rather than read. FR Leavis, no slouch with the crushing putdowns, praised it as "an original masterpiece, one of the great novels of the language". US critics tend to reclaim James by lumping him with the Transcendentalists (whoever they are).

Responsible for: Narrowing the focus of interest in the Victorian novel. James made it respectable for writers to abandon social analysis and concentrate on individual psychology. Fictional characters no longer needed proper jobs; they had feelings instead.

Bonking on the rostrum

Vicky Ward finds Jilly Cooper's orchestral saga troppo adagio for its own good

he most misleading thing about Jilly Cooper's latest bonkbustet, Appassionata, is the title. Named after Beethoven's piano sonata it evokes notions of power, grandiloquence, tempestuousness and shuddering orgasms. The Cooper fan is deceived into thinking, joyfully, that after three years' impatient wait it is time once more to revel in the torrid sex-lives of the upper class residents of Rutshire, Cooper's famous fictitious county, where, for three steamy previous sagas, the denizens have enjoyed so many rolls in haystacks, glasses of champagne and competitive backstabbing in the stable-yard, it's a miracle any of them survive beyond 40.

Tragically this is not the case in Appassionata. Cooper relegates the horse-riding lustful Rutshire contingent, of whom we are so fond, to the background, foregrounding instead the county's symphony orchestra. The result is a wholesale loss of the Dynasty-style glamour that has previously comprised much of Cooper's escapist appeal. Monsoon replaces Armani; French horns replace polo stick and gruff vowels from the North and Ireland take the place of the

upper-class nasal twang. The transformation doesn't work because Cooper can't leave her home territory behind. If she wanted to write a novel about the sex lives of Bantam Press, £16.99

musicians she would have done well not to set it in Rutshire on the doorstep of her earlier womanising equestrian hero Rupert Campbell-Black. Instead she tries, unsuccessfully, to merge the two worlds, by over-glamorising the orchestra, exaggerating its importance in the community and turning its members into ludicrous caricatures in the process.

Being musicians, rather than equestrian athletes, the only way her male heroes can prove their virility is to bonk and drink their brains out every time the orchestra gets a break from rehearsal. At one point Abby, the heroine conductor asks her lead violinist about the hero, Viking, a French Horn player: "Does he work out?" Answer. "Only how to get the next lay..." The humour doesn't begin to compare with the far more natural Campbell-Black's public-school chauvinist narrative. In a Colombian convent he finds the herbal tea so dis-

gusting he is convinced "it's made with

Sister Agatha's beard shavings."

The plot too, is strained. Bared breasts, fornication and sabotage have long been part of the stableyard scene but on a conductor's rostrum? When Abby, whom the orchestra members are initially inclined to dislike just because of her sex, accidentally whips off her T-shirt to reveal "a pair of stunning breasts", the situation

is too absurd to be funny. Cooper has already admitted that the sheer size of an orchestra makes it difficult to remember which character is which - an obstacle she hasn't quite overcome since on page 480 June, the flautist, is substituted by an unknown character, Julie. But even the main characters are so thinly drawn that we wouldn't care if they all committed mass suicide, let alone care about a sacked musician. All it takes for viola player Flora Seymour to fall for the man she spends the bulk of the book despising is for him to look after her dog for a few hours. "I misjudged you - you're a sweet guy," she says and promptly falls in love, disingenuously ignoring the class, cultural and age gaps between them.

Strangely, perhaps, the only book's political incorrectness of Rupert only genuinuely moving story-line concerns a young man's acceptance of his homosexuality and embarkation on a gay love affair. Maybe she took a leaf out of Jane Austen's book, because here it seems Cooper delib-

erately restrains herself from writing about what she hasn't personally experienced. The gay sex scene is sensitively written and not overblown.

Alas, the same cannot be said of it heterosexual counterparts. They are cold, trite, mechanical and surprisingly lacking in energy. Clichés such as "This time the metronome never faltered" and "Then she thought of nothing except George" are used to polish off one or two lines of mundane love-making, instead of the customary one or two pages. There is far less distinction between villainous (sadomasochistic) sex and loving sex than is usual in Cooper's work; and of funny sex - Cooper's trademark there is little sign at all. Many critics detected a certain melancholy weariness about Appassionata's predecessor, The Man Who Made Husband's Jealous, but by comparison the latter is a joyful Spring romp. In Appassionata, Cooper, one feels, is tired.

For Cooper fans, there is, however, a glimmer of hope. Some of the best chapters centre round the Campbell-Blacks' adoption of two Colombian babies - one of whom, Xavier, s facially disfigured, and an instinctive horseman who is adored by his glamorous father. If she is sensible Ms Cooper will realise she has already created the bare bones of the plot for her next, far better, bonkbuster.



Whenever you're ready to talk, we're ready to listen.

Cornello, well go through it with you. The Samaritans

Meddling with molasses and tinkering with tea

Britain's record of interference in America is almost as bad as America's record of humbug and propaganda. By Edward Pearce

A Struggle for Power:

The American Revolution

by Theodore Oraper, Little, Brown, £25

ritain has a sentimental view of the United States, which has a distinctly sentimental view of itself. We have a legend of brotherly affection, briefly interrupted. They have one of heroic liberation from unspeakable tyranny. Theodore Draper's excellent, reasonable and very readable study is concerned with the roots of American Independence. And having read a mass of secondary, but unfamiliar material, he explains. Very roughly, the British, as imperial power across the previous century, had been indolent, self-seeking and wrong about economics – mercantilists instead of freetraders. Also we carried negligence in colonial relations to celestial heights before switching first to unconsidered meddling - the Stamp Act and tea duties - then to blind panic.

The Americans, or rather the key Americans in the key places, were hyperbolic, manipulative provincials like Italian footballers writhing around in search of a penalty. They turned British flea-bites into slavery while black men were whipped in the cottonfields of patriots in good standing. There were exceptions to the complementary awfulness. Lord Dartmouth showed some intelligence on the British side, Benjamin Franklin spent years as a conciliating force. Even so, one puts down Mr Draper's book regretting that, between British fools and American humbugs, they couldn't both lose.

Of course, hindsight tells us that American independence was inevitable and should have happened in the smooth, astute way of Canada and Australia. But the prime American movers for it, with their tarring-and-featherings of opponents and the bombastic self-pity of their propaganda, inspire no affection. Listen to Joseph Warren on "the Boston Massacre": "our streets were stained with the blood of our brethren, when our ears were wounded by the groans of the dying, and our eyes were to be tormented with the sight of the mangled bodies of the dead". (Sounds like Sinn Fein.)

As Draper observes, the "massacre", "was the outcome of an exchange of insults between a colonial ropemaker and a British private, a colonial mob had attacked a British sentry, no official order had been given to fire..." and a colonial jury acquitted officer and men of the deaths of five people. The event was nevertheless to serve from 1771 to 1783 as an American holy day until replaced by the Fourth of July.

ments of universal but considered liberty. But how is this for enlightenment? The government of George III had issued the Quebec act of 1774, giving the French Catholic majority there freedom of religion plus French civil law. The first American continental congress in its "Address to the Peoples of Great Britain", ment should ever consent to establish in that trying to govern Virginia.



'Unconsidered meddling': The Stamp Act of 1765 caricatured in the Boston Gazette. Britannia (seated) hands it to an uninterested assembly of Liberty (on ground), Mercury (wealth) and Minerva (wisdom)

country a religion that has deluged your island in blood and dispersed impiety, bigotry and per-secution, murder and rebellion through every part of the world." Another address, directed to the Catholic

French Canadians, accused the British of failing to give them their irrevocable rights. The Know-Nothings (anti-Catholic, anti-Jewish, antiimmigrant) were to be a force in 19th-century America. (So were sellers of Brooklyn Bridge.) But against the virulence and dishonesty of Boston orators in the Seventies. Draper sets British colonial government across the century, if it can be called government. High in impor-We know too well a sanitised picture of tance among his sources are the dispatches of enlightenment America - Augustan prose and Lieutenant-Governors of US colonies. The practice was to appoint as Governor some grand personage, often an absentee, and to leave the toil to a lieutenant, often a former officer, perhaps like Colonel Alexander Spotswood, one who had deserved well through service under Marlborough. Someone who might today have become the secretary of a golf club or found himexpressed astonishment that "a British Parlia- self, over the second decade of the 18th century, account that Massachussetts and Rhode Island

His first problem was to get his own salary paid, and as the expense lay with the colonial assembly, he was often reduced to despairing correspondence home. But he was talking to an authority which chose not to exercise itself. For on an informal day-to-day basis, American inde-pendence already existed. Only the Board of Trade troubled itself with exercising any con-trol over the colonies and the Board of Trade was sidelined.

But autonomy did not protect colonial interests. Robert Walpole fell from power 30 years before American independence, but his practice shows both the indifference of British government to those interests and its sublime

duced the Molasses Act, a 100 per cent import tariff upon molasses produced outside the British colonies. At this time, the molasses of the French West Indies were sold briskly to New England in exchange for fish, meat, flour and lumber. The molasses were turned to such good were known as the Rum Coast. This trade in

turn financed New England's negative balance mercial element, enormous pressure was of trade with Britain.

The only losers were British West Indian planters, but they were rich and wellconnected, also absentees, like those aristocratic governors. Having pull in Downing Street, they used it and got their act. All hell was promptly let loose in Britain, never mind the American colonies. "Liberty, property and no excise" become the chant and Walpole was mobbed in the street.

As for the Americans, the agent of New York, Partridge, described the act levelly, as "divesting them of their rights and privileges as ye king's natural-born subjects and English men in levying subsidies upon them against their consent whom they... have no Representative in Parliament nor any part of ye Legislature of the Kingdom". This just point missed the elegant subtlety of the Prime Minister who had sought to please the British planters by passing the Act and to square the Americans, in an age of generalised and approved smuggling, by not enforcing it.

Such refined cynicism being lost on the com-

exerted on Walpole. And in the way of Oscar Wilde and temptation, he yielded. The Prime Minister observed that "in the present inflamed temper of the people, the act could not be carried into execution without armed force; that there would be an end of the liberty of England

if supplies were to be raised by the sword".

The colonies might have been kept longer to be relinquished without conflict had such cool reasoning continued. But Walpole's successors did not have his lucid commercial priorities. Grandeur reared its ugly head.

It would be convincingly argued during the Seven Years War that Britain should retain its conquest of Guadaloupe, richest and most profitable of sugar islands, leaving big scrubby Canada to the French, who always kept the colonists respectful and had already spanked a Colonel Washington sent on a futile mission against a French fort.

Alas, we broke with indolence, opted for grandeur, liberated the Americans from French surveillance, meddled again and everything

Swizzles, gruntlings and lumber pie

The goofball professor of trivia is getting formulaic, thinks Robert Winder

I t wouldn't be difficult to poke fun The Size of Thought's at the insistent, deliberate and selfconscious triviality of Nicholson Baker's concerns. In four novels -The Mezzanine, Room Temperature, Vox and The Fermata - and a mazy work of literary self-criticism (U and I) he has marked out a trim but rich plot for himself in the literary landscape; and become something of a cult figure as the goofball professor of the small things in life.

There are times when he seems so gripped by, say, the capillary system on a single leaf that he fails to see the trees, let alone alone the wood, but that, in a way, is the whole point. God, as they say, dwells in the details, and Baker has been able to tease a pedantic kind of poetry from, among other things, the grooves on a record, the handbrake-like spreader on an ice-cube tray, the significance of a misquotation, and the curious whims of fashion and taste in shampoo

His new volume of essays - his first - could easily have been called a novel. It is, like his fiction, full of po-faced footnotes and elaborate descriptions of gadgetry. His subjects are the history of punctuation (let's hear it for the semi-colash). aeroplane modelling, chocolate sauce, the mechanics of film projection, nail-clipping aesthetics, and those loose bites of unprocessed text that gather like sediment at the bottom of a computer-generated manuscript ("...ow) and nrtz t, which a plastic bagn..."). But the prevailing tone is confessional: his meticulous analysis of the material world is warmed by lots of acute and goodhumoured self-examination.

His ideal enterprise, you feel, is not the slightest interest, and make it riveting - a splendid, risky tactic that usually works. Baker writes with enviable density: his fidgety sentences, anxious not to bore. "a non-dairy ox-product").

by Nicholson Baker Chatto, £14.99

glance about them like partygoers who don't know anyone else there. Just when you think he has exhausted the matter in hand, he finds some new swizzle to hold up to the light.

Where he stumbles - as, perhaps, in The Fermata - is when he takes as his theme something of automatic interest (sex) and subtracts, rather than adds, excitement. There, his cool appraisal of the mental manoeuvres led him to neglect the heated palpitations of the real thing. And here, in these cool, knowing essays, his eagerness to dignify the oppressed minorities of our existence sometimes leads him to cut grander themes down to size. "We must refine all epics into epigrams," he cries at one point. Big thoughts

are only small thoughts in black tie. Most of these essays appeared originally in the New Yorker, and they are certainly strong enough to be let out on their own, The final piece, in particular, is spectacular: a 150-page rumination on the literary and social career of a single word: lumber. In Baker's hands this becomes an exquisite piece of practical criticism featuring Goethe, Shakespeare, Nabokov, Housman, Virginia Woolf and many others, a canny report on the cultural implications of electronic search methods, a detective story - he hunts down the sources pillaged in a famous lumber-couplet by Alexanto take something in which we have der Pope - and a cookery book (following a hint from Montaigne, Baker wonders whether his "lumber pie" was not a metaphorical bag of bits and bobs but a genuine dish -

It's a wonderful little book in its own right: the words "Dissertation on the Epistles of Phalaris" do not often appear on the same page as "Magnavox CD-player (featuring Dynamic Bass Boost Circuitry)" But put together, these essays can at times seem just a teensy bit written to a formula - different ways of making the same point - about the emotional resonance of all those everyday objects we rarely honour with our full attention, Baker is well aware of this.

In "Rarity", written in 1983, he worries aloud about our preoccupation with the unusual: "Grants committees and arts competitions chew through the applicant pools, funding anything that moves. Contrarians trample one another to buy unfashionable stocks. 'New and Noteworthy columns take any gruntling of an innovation and give it a paragraph, a title with a pun in it, and a closecropped picture." He concludes by urging us to "pursue truth, not rarity. The atypical can fend for itself." The ordinary, in Baker's world, is

easily strange enough. In a way, it would be marvellous if Baker could bring himself to discuss the big emotions provoked by love, war, death etc with the same inspired diligence, the same refusal to be fooled, that he brings to his enquiries into the metal oscillations generated by modelling glue or the index cards in public libraries. But he is too much the humourist, perhaps, to take himself seriously in such matters.

Self-deprecation, indeed, has become almost a tic. At the end of his heroic tour of the lumber-region, he apologises ("I have over-empha-sised minor borrowings... I have overquoted and overquibbled") and you rather wish he hadn't. Surely he doesn't want us to agree with him? great stuff to me, but then what do I know?

A feast of Hibernian hokum

Short on opinions, accommodating to foreigners, a new Oxford guide is still a marvel, says Patricia Craig

A | hat is Irish literature? According to this Compan-I ion, it includes novels set in Africa, grammars of written and spoken Japanese, and 17thcentury English translations from the French, whose connection with Ireland may all be judged somewhat tenuous. The editor, you may gather, is possessed by a burning desire to be as comprehensive as possible, and indeed he has pretty well got everything in, although there are a few illogical omissions.

usual way of these Oxford Companions, alphabetically, and with entries compiled by a host of contributors. I wish Robert Welch had followed the practice of Ian Hamilton with his Oxford Companion to Twentieth Century Poetry (say) and identified the author of each piece, rather than trying for uniformity by keeping the whole thing anonymous. He has achieved a consistency of tone, indeed, but at a cost. One of his tasks as editor (he says in the preface) was to purge all the writing of "slack opinion and knowing jargon". What's happened is that the purging has left

a scarcity of opinion of any sort. It's true that one consults an Oxford Companion for facts, not assessment, and you will find many cogent and extensive delinitions here - for example, of Hiberno-English, the stage Irishman and the Literary Revival. However, nearly all the entries for individual works, particularly works of fiction, come in the form of plot summaries; and it's disconcerting to detect no critical differentiation between Molly Bloom (for example) and Molly Bawn. The plot summarisers take their brief very seriously and keep a straight face even while describing the role, in Charles Maturin's more than once - for instance,

Oxford Companion to Irish Literature, edited by Robert Welch, OUP, £25

The Albigenses, of a lunatic werewolf, a wronged and deadly sorceress and a batch of poisoned holy communion wafers. And the person into whose hands the Co Cavan novelist Anthony C West has fallen treats this author with-The book is arranged, in the out once alluding to the most striking aspect of his fiction: its unending preoccupation with

women's burns and busts. The Companion isn't at all snooty about its inclusions, and so we find Maeve Binchy ("warm-hearted novels... tinged with nostalgia") along with such earlier exponents of Irish banality as Rosa Mulholland and Annie MP Smithson ("district nurse and novelist"). An obscure historical work by William Buckley, Croppies Lic Down (1903) rates a mention, and is oddly described as "painstakingly realistic" when in fact it kills off half its cast by means of battles, duelling, shooting accidents and suicide: the whole caboodle.

Even more puzzling is the ascription of "political feminism" to the author of *The Rat*enumerated in these pages. Some things are considered

Pit (Patrick McGill), a lurid novel of 1915 which contains one of the most luckless, witless, passive and ignorant heroines in the whole of Irish literature, Other characters in novels are described as being "defeated by life and time" or "driven to crime and exile to support their ruined families". Many elements of bygone Hibernian hokum are

there's a separate entry for every story in Dubliners (some of them paraphrased very ploddingly indeed), an entry for Dubliners itself, and then quite properly a four-page entry for Joyce which traces his life and career - but not his achievement, which is

covered elsewhere. A few odd choices seem to have been made: why, for example, do we find under "A" a paragraph devoted to a three-act play called Autumn Fire, which no one's ever heard of, but not Autumn Journal, for which we're referred back to MacNeice? Why is every novel by Joyce Cary, and not only the two set in Ireland, doggedly outlined? Why should the editor suppose that anyone in their right mind, wanting to read about Elizabeth

Bowen, would turn first to Cole, Dorothea (her middle names)? All the dominant figures of Irish letters are handled conscientiously, and at appropriate length: Swift, Yeats, Shaw, Wilde, Synge, Flann O'Brien, Heaney and the rest. There are useful entries on authors who should be better known, such as Mervyn Wall (a couple of hilarious excursions into medieval Ireland, starring the ex-monk Pursey) and works we've always meant to read but never got round to, like Jonah Barrington's Rise and Fall of the Irish Nation (1833).

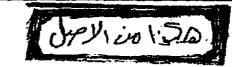
Careful reading will reveal a good deal of insight into the subdivisions of Irish nationalism, and their outlets in literature; for example, in the wake of Douglas Hyde's call for "de-Anglicisation" in 1892, Gaelic Leaguers, literary revivalists and Irish-Irclanders all believed themselves to be exclusively attuned to the national spirit, and took up their pens accordingly. Coming up to the present, we gain an inkling of

such departures as the renewal of interest in the Irish language, historical revisionism and the onrush of bawdiness following the scuppering of censorship.

Attention must be drawn to some sins of omission. Synge's The Aran Islands is in, quite rightly, but not Stones of Aran by Tim Robinson, an extraordinary, two-volume work which adds up to the last word on that pungent island. Troubles (1971), the novel that sparked off Derek Mahon's celebrated poem "A Disused Shed in Co Wexford" isn't mentioned and nor is its author, JG Farrell; these are Englishmen. true, but so are John Dancer, Pastorini. Queen Elizabeth I and Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, for whom a place has been found.

What else? The Glens-of-Antrim versifier Moira O'Neill is described as the mother of the "actress Molly Keane" - though her daughter is properly identified under her own heading as the author of Good Behaviour (1981) and its successors. The Gaelic folk song, "Is Fada O Bhaile". is inaccurately cited. And so on. It's easy to single out small flaws and errors of interpretation. However, so much industry has gone into this undertaking that we should be grateful for all it contains in the way of information and illumination, rather than lamenting its

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Invisible messiah: the radiant Five Wounds of Christ disembodiedly revealed — a striking piece of early surrealism from a Flemish diptych of 1523, commissioned by a Carthusian abbot. It's one of a troye of images from Medieval Death: Ritual and Representation by Paul. Binski (British Museum Press, £25), an entertaining study of the aesthetics of moribundity, the imagining of Hell and the wishful portrayal of the Afterlife. Macabre ritual rubs shoulders with a grotesque comedy of manners.

Tailors' tales and story factories

A huge novel full of postmodern tricks, of decent widows and local crooks, set in Bombay and satirising Mrs Gandhi. Who does Rohinton Mistry think he is? Salman Rushdie? By Hugo Barnacle

Obinton Mistry's second novel is a whopper Kin size – 600-plus pages – but apparently not in substance. He has chosen an epigraph from Balzac's *Père Goriot*: "This tragedy is not a fiction. All is true," There is no need to doubt the claim, since all the elements in the story are familiar from newspapers, history books and documentaries, which is part of the book's problem. The other part is that Mistry takes a slightly more naive view of the fictional process than Balzac, and assumes that simply re-ordering his anecdotal evidence to provide continuity and tension, and soldering it all together with lots of dialogue, will do the trick.

This works only up to a point. The story deals with two village tailors, Ishvar and his orphaned nephew Om, who come to a "city by the sea". which is clearly Bombay, to look for work. They are taken on by a lovely Parsi widow, Dina Dalal, who has a contract with an export fashion firm. To make ends meet and preserve her fragile independence from her odious brother, Dina also takes a paying guest, Maneck Kohlah, the

student son of an old schoolfriend. It is 1975, Indira Gandhi has just declared the Emergency and India is going to hell in a handcart. Sweeping police powers allow forced vasectomies (or even castration if someone in authority doesn't like you), the buildozing of slums and the rounding up of homeless people as slave labour for government construction projects. Crooked coppers, landowners and bureaucrats are making fortunes, but poor slum-dwelling tailors, respectable widows and idealistic students face an outlook that shades from dodgy into dire.

Mistry acquaints us with the main characters' family histories, from the time of Independence, in long flashbacks. He has an excellent command of storytelling structure and maintains a high what-happened-next factor throughout. Old-fashioned readability is the book's great-

He occasionally likes to remind us of this. "Everything happens to you." the waiter at the by Rohinton Mistry

local restaurant tells Ishvar and Om when they return from yet another horrendous misadventure. "It's not us, it's this city." Om says. "A story factory, that's what it is." Again, when the beggarmaster tells how he discovered a long-lost brother, Om gives us the nudging appraisal: "It's got everything - tragedy, romance, violence and a suspenseful, unresolved ending."

These post-modern touches are in reality as old as Don Quixote, older even, but they nevertheless seem to indicate an effort on Mistry's part to go beyond a recreation of the 19thcentury social novel and muscle in on Salman Rushdie's lucrative pitch. A more blatant example turns up in the account of how Maneck's father, a merchant in "a hill station" which we can take to be Simla, lost the family lands. "A foreigner drew a magic line on the map and called it the new border.'

The keyword "magic" is unmistakably Rushdiesque in this context, and so is the bad history, since Partition was the brainchild of the Muslim League and the complete antithesis of British policy.

The satirical attacks on Mrs Gandhi's regime pursue a similar literary objective, though Mistry is perhaps overlooking the fact that Midnight's Children appeared while Indira was still in power. Ridiculing her grandiose rallies, her plans for the "bed the utter comment of bombay, her latent faction" of Bombay, her latent fascism and the utter corruption of her lieutenants is no longer quite so cutting-edge, and the humour seems weak, except on one occasion when the police carry out a baton charge on a beggar's funeral procession and then apologise, having mistaken the parade of cripples and misfits for a piece of subversive street theatre.

Mistry's characters are more recognisably human than Rushdie's, though they tend to be either goody-good or baddy-bad, and those who are meant to be ambiguous simply oscillate between the two extremes. All upper-caste Hindus are portrayed as fiends in human form, dedicated to the merciless and unrelenting oppression, torture and slaughter of their supposed inferiors (a perfectly realistic approach as far as it goes, since the outrages and atrocities in the novel are matters of historical record), but this is one of those cases where truth is stranger than fiction, and within the constraints of fiction the truth seems too lurid.

As a relief from the violence and squalor comes the brief "golden time" when Om and Ishvar, Dina and Maneck live happily, unmolested by the lawless government and its various parasites. (Om even gets rid of a literal parasite, the tapeworm that has kept him matchstick-thin for years.) Mistry's vision is profoundly dualistic. Maneck reflects that "the secret of survival was to balance hope and despair", and his failing is that he cannot do this. "If there were a large enough refrigerator, he would be able to preserve the happy times... But it was an unrefrigerated world. And everything ended badly."

So when Ishvar takes Om home to find a bride, and everything looks tickety-boo, we know there is going to be a ghastly twist of fate. By this stage Mistry's expert tear-jerking technique has become counterproductive and, as he piles catastrophe upon disaster, it is increasingly hard to keep a straight face; indeed, as Oscar remarked on the death of Little Nell, it would take a heart of stone not to laugh.

We are not helped by the pompous, lumpy metaphors, like the refrigerator image above. which proliferate weirdly towards the end. But the book is entertaining and instructive, in the best 19th-century tradition: perhaps especially instructive to us British, as we plunge towards the state of Third World beggary that awaits us in the new millennium.

A swagger, a wink and a tomcat's daughter

Melissa Denes is entranced by piracy, moved by school reports and repelled by a breast fanatic in three first novels

Island, it doesn't promise much in-depth analysis of the post-modern condition of humanity. And yet Alison MacLeod's The Changeling (Macmillan, £15.99) which nods to Robert Louis Stevenson rather than Thomas Middleton - is much more than an adventure story for grown-ups. An odyssey which begins in Co Cork and ends (temporarily) in the West Indies works a strange magic, evoking in the reader that enthusiasm for the "New World", and for discovery in the large sense, which is at once its theme and its inspiration.

Set at the beginning of the 18th century, The Changeling tells the story of Anne Bonny, born in confused circumstances (her mother dies believing her to in more ways than one. In true 18th-cenbe the daughter of an over-affectionate tury fashion, it readily admits of other

The pirating epic is not an obvious consequently possessed of a healthy choice for the first-time novelist: too remote, too romantic, too Treasure for disorder: if freedom is dif
are echoes of Defoe and of Swift's wild, becomes obsessed with the idea of revificult, she confides, there is nothing so satirical inventiveness. At the same sion. Thus begins a series of subject-by
one green") finally becomes more irri
The novel charts the course of a canbleak as the tidy life.

Her boyhood in Ireland (she is called "Anson" until the age of seven.) is followed by an uneasy period as a settler's daughter in America, before Anne discovers sex and the sea - their attractions remain for her mutually bound - and sails for New Providence. When time begins to hang heavy on her once more, she marries Captain Jack Rackham, a gentleman-pirate, adopts a swagger and a wink, and joins his crew on the high seas. Anne Bonny was not born a changeling, but in her flight from permanence and from history, she certainly

lives like one. MacLeod's novel inhabits its period

time, nothing qualifies the author's subject revenges. It is apparent before originality. Understated, spare, The the bottom of the first page that all is not fumbled assault, a hostage taken in the in Paris; the crass misogyny of the latter Changeling issues from the smallest of details - the lack of palm leaves, the

heaviness of a sky. The freshness of MacLeod's imagery makes unquestionably real a world where homes and towns are taken by the sea ("porpoises glinting coppery over the herb garden"), and the outposts of British civilisation come adrift, with "sun-struck old seamen skittering across the beach yelling at nobody".

Rather more contemporary in its concerns is Martyn Bedford's Acts of Revision (Bantam, £14.99). Thirty-five-yearold Gregory Lynn returns home from his mother's funeral to unearth his old school reports. As he reads them, and real live tomcat), raised in chaos, and voices. Rumours, reports and old wives' remembers how they were the prelude tence and the repetition of a potted biog-

anti-hero is not your average literary madman. He is no Wall Street trader with a penchant for designer suits and fancy restaurants - this is a uniquely British Psycho, prowling suburbia with the hood of his jacket drawn tight, watching for signs of life behind the frosted glass.

The want of glamour can prove something of an obstacle. Gregory Lynn is not an aesthete à la Humbert Humbert or Hannibal Lecter, and his unmitigated egotism often makes his world, and his language, as two-dimensional as the cartoons he is forever drawing. A fondness for the subject-verb-object sen-

The Dead School by Patrick

McCabe (Picador, £6.99). This

moving and unsentimental novel

themselves trying to blame their

lives on one another: Malachy

can't hold on to either jobs or

women, and Raphael Bell, a

headmaster so busy teaching

outgrow the loss of his father to

children he never learns to

Dudgeon, a perennial loser who

tells the story of two men who ruin

the bottom of the first page that all is not fumbled assault, a hostage taken in the well with Gregory, and yet Bedford's school chemistry lab) are not without a certain inevitability. The level on which this novel does surprise and engage is rather quieter and implicit. Its focus is split three ways between the present, the near past (the acts of revision.) and childhood. It is in the gradual excavation of a life that's essentially cheerless, save for the very distant past, that Bedford is most affecting. A moving debut.

Robin Laurent, self-styled hero of Alvin Rakoff's & Gillian (Little, Brown, £12.99), deals with grief somewhat differently. When his wife, the eponymous Gillian, is forced to undergo a mastectomy he discovers that (well I never) the breast for him represents all that is good in life. As his wife's condition worsens,

in Paris; the crass misogyny of the latter episode ("I should rape her, she would never charge me") sits uncomfortably with the threnody for Gillian. She becomes hunchbacked, shrivelled, constipated: it seems a final injustice that Robin should so strip her of her sexuality while flexing his own. On the beach in Portugal. Gillian sits tented by her robe while Robin admires topless volleyballing girls, their firm breasts "jiggling, bobbing, shaking, flapping, shimmering, bouncing, bouncing, bouncing." Poor Gillian. Her husband's lust for other women is, it becomes clear, intended as some roundabout homage to her former beauty. It's just as well she dominates the title, because Gillian herself barely makes it on to the page.

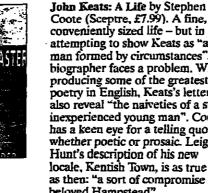
Paperbacks -

Reviewed by Emma Hagestadt and Christopher Hirst

Death and Disaster by Paul Alexander (Warner, £8.99). The title comes from a cheery series of Andy Warhol paintings on suicides. car crashes and assassinations. But it also aptly applies to this book's twin themes: Warhol's demise after a long-postponed gall bladder operation - his fear of dying in a hospital became a self-fulfilling prophecy - and the frittering away of his \$600m estate through legal wrangling. The dissection of New York's arty and legal worlds is initially absorbing, although the story gets bogged down in detail.

Konin by Theo Richmond (Vintage, £8.99). In 1939, there were 2,700 Jews in the Polish town of Konin. By 1942, there were none. By tracking down survivors around the world, Richmond has produced a luminous account of this doomed community - food, ceremonies, love of learning, even toilet habits - and the resilience of its people following the diaspora. Inevitably, the terrible name of Treblinka lies at the heart of this wonderful book.

The Weather Prophet by Lucretia Stewart (Vintage, £6.99). Ostensibly a travelogue of the Caribbean - a bit about the banana business here, a fragment on the Carib aboriginals there - this is mainly a guide to Lucretia Stewart. We are informed about her dream life and good taste ("Jerry Hall bought the same one last week"). In particular, we learn a sight more than is necessary about her sex life: "We spent hours exploring a changing landscape of flesh and bone and muscle... For a denouement she provides a detailed account of a miscarriage. Why didn't someone stop her?



attempting to show Keats as "a man formed by circumstances", the biographer faces a problem. While producing some of the greatest poetry in English, Keats's letters also reveal "the naiveties of a still inexperienced young man". Coote has a keen eye for a telling quote, whether poetic or prosaic. Leigh Hunt's description of his new locale, Kentish Town, is as true now as then: "a sort of compromise between London and our beloved Hampstead".

Cricket Calling by Rowland Ryder (Faber, £7.99). Born into the crease 82 years ago - as Warwickshire secretary, his father signed up the bowler Jeeves whose name appealed to Wodehouse - Ryder has produced a genial volume of cricketiana. Addicts may be aware that Samuel Beckett was the only Nobel winner to appear in Wisden (he played for Trinity College, Dublin), but did you know that Jardine of "bodyline" infamy became a committed Hindu?

The Last of the Duchess by Caroline Blackwood (Picador, £5.99). In 1980 Caroline Blackwood was asked by the Sunday Times to write a piece on the Duchess of Windsor. But first she had to get past the sinister figure of "Maître Blum", the Duchess's constant companion and watchdog. Fascinated by the relationship between these two women - one "horrible old lady being locked up by another horrible old lady" -Blackwood has drawn an exquisitely chilling picture of life behind the

author meets Maitre Blum face to face.

THE DUCHES

shutters at Neuilly. Most frightening of all is when the

the Black and Tans. Evocative of life in the Dublin streets over the past 50 years, this is an assured and absorbing successor to McCabe's grisly 1993 cult novel, The Butcher Boy. Prozac Nation by Elizabeth Wurtzel (Quartet, £6). Even before Zoë Heller was taking Prozac, Elizabeth Wurtzel was pumped full of the stuff and writing her memoirs. And surprisingly smart and funny they are too (if about 100 pages too long). Crashed out on a bathroom floor in New York she idly wonders if chronically

The Book of Secrets by M.G. Vassanji (Picador, £6.99). Posted to British East Africa, Alfred Corbin kicks off his 1913 Lett's diary complaining about his manservant's annoying habit of singing "Once in Royal David's City" unceasingly. The novel goes on to flesh out the other bit players in Corbin's personal drama (German spies, Swahili chiefs, Indian shopkeepers) in an attempt to make history whole. A beautiful and atmospheric book

psychotic people ever make it to the "nursing-home-in-Florida phase of life", or whether it's better to die young and pretty.

describing a place where everyone is from somewhere

else, and no one can claim the past as their own.

Audiobooks



Evil under the Sun read by David Suchet The Best of Sherlock Holmes 4 read by John Gielgud, Ralph Richardson and

Nothing like a spot of classic sleuthing to while away the Easter traffic jams. David Suchet is as good at reading fluffy heroines and sly villains as at intoning Poirot's Gallicisms in Christie's Evil Under The Sun (Chivers, 6hrs 21 mins, £14.95 by mail order 001225 335336). Other unabridged detective thoroughbreds in the Chivers stable include Dorothy Sayers (excellently read by Ian Carmichael) and Ngaio Marsh. The Best of Sherlock

Holmes 4 (Heritage Media, 2hrs, £7.99 by mail order 01429 838885) is vintage listening, remastered from a 1950s radio series. Orson Welles is a matchless Moriarty, hissing with soft menace as he wrestles our hero to his apparent doom at the Rauschenburg Falls. But Gielgud's languid, aesthetic Holmes survives to prove Richardson's tweedy and impressionable Watson wrong in three more cases.

Christina Hardyment

 $D_{\rm CPUIS}$

Desert Depths

are not very deep, and most spiritual books are not very funny. 'Desert Depths' is both - drawing deeply from the well of Christian spirituality but never bringing up the usual pomp and piety. Soul food for the 'unspiritual'."

Matin Wroe, Chair, Orsenbelt Festivals. Scripture Available from Christian bookshops or direct from Scripture Union on 01865 747669 Ref 16-4

When you've got bags of space, but no privacy

WORKSHOP: The Tileys' garden has huge potential — they just need to add the right hedges and shrubbery. Anna Pavord advises

hree years ago we bought our lovely 17th-century listed stone farmhouse which needed total renovation. We now want to start on the garden but don't know where to begin. At present, the house seems to "float" in its plot. The original farm buildings and sur-rounding land have been developed and our three-acre garden is totally overlooked. There is evidence that the garden is part of a formal design laid out by a certain Mr Blomfield at the turn of this century, before the estate was broken up.

We need ideas for screening, hedging, fencing and generally reorganising the layout of the garden. The grounds possess many elements of a wonderful gar-den: mature trees, water, woodland, an old grass tennis court and an established flower border. But it totally lacks privacy and there is a huge area of grass to mow. Our requirements include, apart from

privacy from our neighbours and the road, a safe play area for our three young children and dog; a secluded area in which to sit, sunbathe, barbecue; an area for vegetables and fruit trees; a puddock area for pony, chickens etc. We would like to make the most of the existing features.

We would be prepared to build an outbuilding of stone but cannot agree on the best site for it. Indeed, we change our minds daily about what best to do with the whole garden ...

There is very much more that is right about Richard and Caroline Tiley's garden than is wrong. They have masses of space for their three young children (William, Sebastian, Flora) to crash about in. There is space, too, for a menagerie of animals, including a grey pony called Scrumpy, a trio of geese, hens and a small flotilla of ducks who scrabble around up-ended in the two ponds at the bottom of the garden.

There are some fine trees, including a massive oak set on the west side of the house, and the remnants of an orchard. But the Tileys are right. The garden ought to have its boundaries defined more clearly and the space it up into comfortable areas. Each area look to fit into this semi-wild area. can then take on a distinct character.

The farmhouse stretches from north to south with its short north end at right angles to the village street. Between the Photograph: John Lawrence

Richard and Caroline Tiley: changing their minds daily about what best to do with their garden

hedge of blackthorn, hawthorn and hazel to fill in the north side of this space where it butts on to the street. If they plant some hazel to coppice into clumps among the trees there, that northern boundary will soon be taken care of.

They could soften the long board fence that separates them from their neighbours to the west by planting some wild-looking shrub roses. R. galneeds more lines drawn on it to divide lica "Complicata" would have the right

The drive up to the house leads round the east side of this patch of ground, with modern houses on the lefthand side. I suggested they hedged this street and house is a rough area of grass boundary with the same mixture as they and trees, part of which looked as boundary with the same mixture as they had already used by the road, incorpothough it might once have been orchard. rating a few ash or field maple that could bles, a magnet for weeds, but entirely in Trees behind would give shelter and pri-The Tileys had already planted a be allowed to grow up into proper trees keeping with the character of the house. vacy. That, above all, seemed to be what the Tileys wouldn't see the boundary

within the hedge. This would provide shelter from the east wind and screen them from one of their neighbours.

With a post-and-rail fence put in parallel with the house, this front area would be completely stockproof - that is, when the hedges have grown up and been properly laid. The pony, the geese and the pet ram, Nigel, could do the mowing. There would be plenty of room to plant more apple trees to thicken up the orchard, now reduced to three old trees.

That outer area was not difficult to resolve. Once inside the garden proper, the problems become more acute. A low stone wall lies to the right of the path to the front door. The path is a pleas-ing, muddled mixture of flags and cob-called out to be filled with bulky shrubs.

The east boundary of the garden, dividing the Tileys from the new houses adjacent was the one that needed most work. Part of it was made from a low, chain-link fence, part of it from a starved-looking golden privet hedge. The hedge did not stand much chance of growing strongly as it was overshadowed by a huge ash, planted on a slight mound. This tree would dictate the

nature of any other planting in the area. The boundary made two dog-legs before it straightened out to make its long run down towards the ponds at the bottom of the garden. Each dog-leg made two sides of a rectangle. The first

the Tileys wanted in their garden. They would need some evergreens in the mix, so their cover would not entirely vanish in winter. And a combination of fast and slow-growing subjects. For trees, I suggested a fancy thorn, such as Crataegus prunifolia, a cool holly such as JC Van Tol and slightly in front of them, the double gean Prunus avium "Plena".

To infill, I would use mahonia, a handsome cutleaf elder, perhaps Sambucus nigra "Laciniata", viburnum, preferably one of the ones built like a wedding cake, such as k. plicatum "Lanarih", some philadelphus, draped with clematis for a late summer display and some evergreen choisya. By the time all those had got their feet into the clay (the patch could be 30ft by 15ft),

at all or, in time, the house beyond. The second dog-leg is trickier to resolve, dominated as it is by the monster ash. I would move the rubbish heap in the corner there to another part of the garden, for this part should be

treated as "best". The Tileys were talking about putting up an outbuilding. I wonder if they would consider transferring the funds to build a wall here instead? They would have to see what their neighbours thought about the idea first, but the same neighbours have already put up a short run of wall, about six feet high, which the Tileys wall could join up with. It would strengthen the corner considerably. Then they could do away with the yellow privet and plant rambling roses such as Seagull and Bobbie James over the wall instead. Well mulched by Scrumpy the pony, these could cope with the proximity of the ash.

In the corner itself, I would start off three pieces of yew topiary, perhaps a pyramid and two balls, which would be slow-growing, but ultimately strong features in the garden. Caroline Tiley's letter mentioned that Reginald Blom-field, the Edwardian garden designer. had once worked here. The topiary would reinforce the Edwardian atmosphere of the garden. With spring scillas and autumn cyclamen sprinkled liberally under the ash, the corner would need little more planting.

! randful

-but thi

Blomfield must have planted the strange avenue of pollarded sycamores to create the vista that runs down from the south gable end of the Tileys' house through the avenue to a bridge over the ponds. They are an arresting feature, more like stone columns than trees.

To enclose the east garden, I suggested a yew hedge, running right the way across the east half of the garden to line up with the first sycamore in the avenue. There it could turn at a right angle and run up to the corner of the house, enclosing the east facing side of the stone terrace, which adjoins the house. Open then only to the sunny south and the west, the terrace would become a much cosier place to sunbathe and have tea.

With three children and their menagerie to look after, this is as much gardening as the Tileys should have on their plate. Wallace, the black labrador, sailing as smoothly as Rough Quest over the fence into the paddock, reinforced the message. Dogs need gardens, too.

CUTTINGS

he National Auricula and Primula Society is holding a show today at the Village Hall, Horton Road, Datchet, Berkshire. Books and plants for sale. The show opens at 2.15pm (Admission £1).

Plants, like pop groups, go in and out of fashion, but hostas are the equivalent of the ever-reinterpreted ballad. Read all about them in The

Gardener's Guide to Growing Hostas by Diana Grenfell (David and Charles, £16.99). Ms Grenfell is the co-proprietor of Apple Court, the nursery at Hordle in Hampshire that specialises in hostas, grasses and day-lilies.

Gardens to visit this weekend include Ashley Manor, are vast carpets of spring bulbs near Tetbury, Gloucestershire to enjoy and a working kitchen where the Hoskins have an old

garden next to the church, Easter Sunday and Monday divided by bulging old yew hedges into four separate compartments. Open today and Monday (2-5pm), admission £1.50. Although the famous herbaceous borders at Bramdean House in Hampshire have not woken up yet, there

(2-5pm), admission £1.50. The Hattats at Arrow Cottage, Ledgemoor, near Weobley in Herefordshire have worked for more than 20 years to create a series of carefully linked garden rooms in their two-acre plot. This is a serious garden. well maintained, full of rare plants. Open today and tomorgarden to snoop around. Open row (2-5pm), admission £2.

BARROWS DIRECT

Consulting the auricula

With their uncanny perfection auriculas have a theatre all of their own. By Caroline Donald

ith representations of flowers, art usually follows nature. With auticulas, the most urbane members of the primula family, however, it is as if it were the other way round. So pure and perfectly defined are the concentric circles of colours in their flower-heads -"trusses" - that you want to touch them to convince your-

self that they are living plants. They are the most artificial thing imaginable," says David Hadfield, secretary of the Northern Section of the National Primula and Auricula Society. "But that is why

we find them so fascinating." Auriculas are artificial, in that most of them are manmade hybrids that bear little relation to the alpine "bear's ears, grown in 17th-century gardens such as John Tradescent's at Lambeth. In the 18th century, green-edged varieties were introduced. with a ring of thick white paste around the centre of each flower ("pip"). The ensuing line, "show auriculas", have remained at the top of the auricula pecking order ever since, with the lesser border and alpine

types considered beyond the le by cognoscente such as

Mr Hadfield. Show auriculas are now divided into five types: green-, grey- and white-edged, fancy, and self. As they cover the whole spectrum, the list of colour combinations is seems infinite. Brenda Hyatt, keeper of the national collection of greenand grey-edged show auriculas, has between three and four hundred different named varieties at her nurserv in Chatham, Kent. She

has also inherited the famous

Douglas collection. Auriculas were reputedly introduced by Huguenot weavers, refugees from Flanders, in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. By the 18th century, they were massively popular. Growers took to displaying their plants at shows in little home-made theatres; the backdrop painted black or with a landscape, and the

plants arranged in tiers. Three years ago at the Chelsea Flower Show, armed with the black velvet backcloth held by the Douglas Collection since 1929, Brenda Hyatt went to town on building a theatre, complete with

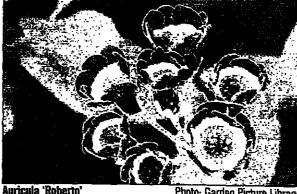


Photo: Garden Picture Library

old-fashioned clay pots and mirrors. The resulting media attention, she believes, has contributed to the revival of interest in auriculas, with their colourful flowers cropping up all over the place on you can mount your very own furnishing fabrics, cushion amateur production. covers and paintings.

With patience, you can grow auriculas yourself. In many ways, they are well-suited to the British climate, being able to survive cold winters under snow. They need to be kept out of strong sun, and prefer a welldrained, semi-rich mineral soil. In order to keep the paste on the petals and leaves from washing off, they should be sheltered from the rain. Once all this has been arranged, and with a Blue-Peter-like transformation of an old shoe box into a theatre,

> Hyatt, 01634 863251. The Northern Section of the National Primula and Auricula Society's show is on 4 May, at Kingsway School, Cheadle, The Southern Section's show is at Holy Trinity Church Hall, London SW3 on 27

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WEEKEND WORK

ogwoods grown for their winter display of orna-mental bark should be cut back hard to encourage new growth from the base of the shrub. Bark on fresh shoots is more brightly coloured than that on old wood.

Hydrangeas may also need secateur work. Clean off old flower heads and cut out stems that seem very weak. Some shoots end in a forest of spindly twigs. Take one or two of these out entirely, cutting as low down as you can, to encourage fresh strong growth. Using a pair of shears, or onehanded clippers, clean off dead flowers from winter-flowering

Lift and divide clumps of perennials that did not flower very well last season. The strongest new growth of many herbaceous plants is round the outside of the clump. Replant these pieces in ground pepped up with bonemeal or Growmore and water regularly until established. Because of the drying combination of wind and sun at this time of the year. all new plants need to be well watered regularly.

Cloches protect early veg-etables and can be used to warm the ground before sowing. Try radish, lettuce and spinach under cloches for early crops. Crop covers such as fleece and perforated poly-

thene have the same effect and protect against pests such as cabbage and carrot root fly,

caterpillars and aphids. Plant summer-flowering bulbs such as gladiolus, galtonia and nerine. If your ground is still cold and soggy, start the bulbs off in pots of compost and plant them out when conditions improve.

Take cuttings of junipers, such as the low, spreading Juniperus horizontalis by snipping off sideshoots where they join a main stem and sticking them round the edge of a 5-inch pot of compost. Keep the pot covered with a polythene bag until the cuttings



Some of the catch: ilvers, or baby eels, transparent and weigh just 0.3g

A handful of eels will yield a tidy profit — but this tricky fish is giving nothing away

By Daniel Butler

he Japanese have wasted millions trying to breed eels in captivity. Apparently there is something out there in the Atlantic which they can't replicate in the laboratory. It's a good thing - I'd be out of a job otherwise."

The shadowy figure standing on the banks of the Parrett Estuary in Somerset shudders in the bitter cold of the spring night. It is the small hours of the morning and, as an elver buyer, this is the climax of the working day.

The eel trade is worth millions of pounds a year and most of the catch will be air-freighted to the other side of the world - yet for all its value and global spread, the industry is entirely dependent on a bizarre and imperfectly understood

targets of tonight's nets, were born thousands of miles away. Those that escape the fishermen are on their way to the brooks. ditches and drains of the British countryside. When they are fully grown - normally about two feet in length - the adult fish are suddenly filled with an urge to head west. They abandon their ponds and backwaters for the nearest river which they follow down to the sea. Then they head back to their spawning grounds, but precisely how remains a mystery.

"On a good night a fisherman might land two or three kilograms of elvers in six hours," explains the waiting buyer cautiously. "When conditions are perfect it reward." could even be as high as 5kgs"

Such a haul represents a tidy profit too - the going price this season is likely to exceed £55 a kilo - but by the time the eels reach their final market in Europe or the high calorific value is the flesh's excep-

What the scientists know about eels

Eels spawn in the Sargasso Sea, between the Azores and the Bahamas. At first the tiny larvae are mixed with American eels, but off Florida the species part company, leaving the European fish to be carried east by the Gulf Stream. It used to be thought that they spent two or three years on the journey, but recent research indicates it could be as little as a year.

When they arrive on Europe's west coast, some remain at sea, some go as far as estuaries and rivers, and a proportion (mainly female) heads upstream, making for inland ditches and ponds to fr insects, invertebrates and fish. Although a true fish, complete with scales and gills, the eel can absorb oxygen

The elvers - or baby eels - which are the Far East the price will have doubled. The catch of "glass eels" is destined for foreign fish farms where they will be reared to supply the rest of the world's seemingly insatiable appetite for the fish. In contrast, apart from the dwindling demand from traditional Cockney fish stalls, we British won't eat eels.

> Yet they remain a vital component in the diet of many British predators: "They're easy to catch, abundant and are particularly likely to be found in shallow water, such as ditches," explains Graham Roberts at Hampshire Wildlife Trust. "This makes them the perfect food for otters: a lowenergy hunt followed by a high-energy

> Eels have the highest food value of any British fish: at 1,635 calories per pound. easily outstripping salmon and far higher than all freshwater fish. Lying behind the

through its skin for short periods, allowing it to leave the water and move short distances across wet grass. Colouration and size are good indicators of age. Elvers are transparent (hence the name "glass eels"), about 7cm long and weigh just 0.3g each. They darken and as they mature in murky inland waters, becoming yellow-green for camouflage. As they prepare to return to sea, this fades to leave the fish silver of top, with a white belly to disguise it in the clearer ocean water. Eels seem capable of determining their own gender – although how remains unclear. Females tend to be larger, growing to well over 40cms in length, but cannot be

tionally high fat content, but ironically the same fat was almost responsible for the otter's extinction 20 years ago. Pesticide residues from DDT and dieldrin are fatsoluble and this was further exacerbated by the eel's bottom-living habits, longevity and its relative pollution-tolerance. As a result, eels are concentrating toxins long after other fish have died.

sexed without dissection.

Today the threat from DDT has largely assed, but new pollutants - and the longlasting PCBs in particular - have taken their place. This gives the eel a new importance to the National Rivers Authority which has just begun a study across Hampshire, Sussex and Kent, using the fish as living pollution recorders: "They are the perfect barometer of the health of a river system." explains Mr Roberts. "They are long-lived, have a limited movement once they reach an area and have a high fat content - that means they pick up and store pollution."

Another reason for research is the perception that eels are in decline. As with everything about this secretive fish, no one is really sure of the trends: "The problem is you can't rely on elver fishermen or buyers for figures - they're an incredibly secretive bunch," says Mr Knight, a member of the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Committee. Anecdotal evidence, however, points to falling catches at a time of increasing demand. "Customs and Excise figures show the number of elvers shipped abroad from the Severn has dropped from 40 tonnes in 1979 to 15 tonnes today and similar drops have been recorded in Holland and France," says Mr Knight.

Yet again, no one is certain what lies behind the falling numbers, but scientists tend towards two general theories. The first suggests the drop is merely part of a natural cycle. This is supported by detailed figures from Holland which show regular neaks and troughs every 20 years or so.

Much more worrying is the suggestion that the Gulf Stream is changing direction. Temperature readings off Newfoundland shown that the huge ocean current which controls Britain's weather has moved northwards. With the Gulf Stream vital to its life cycle, this may well affect the eel population - although quite how has yet to be explained.

The fishermen on the Parrett seem more concerned with the sharp frost rather than the course of the Gulf Stream, however, although they confirm the elvers are running particularly late this year. "My first decent catch wasn't until last week in a good year it would be January," mutters one as he inspects his empty net. "All the same, I reckon there'll be eels in Somerset long after I'm dead and buried."

Sailor, cider-maker, river bailiff and fount of arcane information

e came back from Japan with a geisha girl tattooed on his right arm, so obscene that he had to get the Bristol specialist Les Scuse to put a gown on her before he dared show the picture to his mother. By the time Les had done with him, he had cheeky girls prancing up his legs; on the back of his right arm a tall ship was heeling under sail; over his chest spread the family coat of arms. On his back was a fox-hunt in full cry. Across his shoulders four riders were taking a fence: down his shoulder-blades hounds cascaded, and at the bottom was the fox, disappearing - to put it politely - over his coccyx.

As the vicar remarked at his funeral service, Jasper Ely was an extraordinary man. Once met, never forgotten. he was one of Gloucestershire's last great characters. With his blue eyes and rubicund cheeks, framed by a halo of snow-white beard and hair on top of which sat a nautical cap, indoors and out - he looked what he was, a sailor come ashore. But he was many other things besides: soldier, cider-maker, riverbailiff, farmer, and above all fount of information on numerous areane subjects.

His stamping ground was that strange area known as the Arlingham Peninsula, where the Severn sweeps round in a wide horseshoe south of Gloucester, and the sleepy grassland is so far removed from the bustle of life as to seem another world. He was born in 1926 at Burnthouse, where his family had farmed for generations. As a boy he could not sleep, but spent nights reading voraciously, and so laid the foundations of his encyclopaedic knowledge.

Fed up with school at 14, he went to Bristol to work on the river barges, then graduated to coasters, tankers and banana-boats. At 18 he was called up into the army. and found a niche as a cook. After service in India and Burma, he visited Hiroshima, in ruins after the bomb. At that time servicemen were being offered assisted passages to Australia; Jasper fancied a new life there, but when his sweetheart in England declined to go with him, he returned home and settled at Priding Farm, a smallholding and orchard on the bank of the Severn.

It delighted him - one of the world's great imbibers that the house had once been a temperance hotel. Perhaps as a riposte, he imported an ancient press and began to make rough cider as strong as table wine. (He would down a pint for breakfast, as lesser men drink coffee.) With his liking for old-fashioned strains, he bred Gloucester cattle, Cotswold sheep, Old Spot pigs and various kinds of poultry, which to him were always "fowls".

To supplement his income



DUFF HART-DAVIS

he took a job as bailiff on the Severn, and came to know every inch of the waterway. He was marvellously knowledgeable about its moods and tides, the elvers which swarm upriver in spring, and that dying breed of fishermen, the putchers, who catch salmon in wickerwork baskets deployed

like weirs across the stream. After his early set-back in love, he had little time for women, and remained a lifelong bachelor. He did not learn to drive until he was 40. scorned television, and never had a telephone in the house. Nevertheless, he was immensely magnetic. Just as friends brought him antique machinery, until the ramshackle farmyard was choked with it, so people gathered from far and wide to hear him discourse on varieties of cider apples, on

The

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cattle, the river and the sea. It is difficult to convey the authority which his pronouncements carried. When he said, "Pears is for heirs," you recognised a definitive statement about the longevity of "they old brown perry pear trees", which take 25 years to start producing. When he spoke of the Severn Bore (which he always referred to as "he"), you felt that he was on intimate terms with its elemental force.

With his striking appearance, fine voice. double Gloucester accent and still riper turn of phrase, he was a natural star for local radio and television; but producers soon realised that they ran dire risks with live broadcasts.

In recent months, as his heart gave out, he became an invalid; but still, on his deathbed, he directed the planting of 17 new apple trees. to complete his renovation of the orchard. And when he died, an astonishing variety of friends gathered to bury him. The church at Arlingham was packed by more than 200 people, several with beards like those of Old Testament prophets, some of astonishing girth. The congregation included solicitors, businessmen, farmers, poachers, brewers, publicans, postmen.

Afterwards, at lunchtime. we piled into the Red Lion his daily haunt - and for six hours the bar was in a roar with Jasper stories. But I felt saddened by the thought that his spirit had already gone down the shining river, and that we would never see the like of him again.

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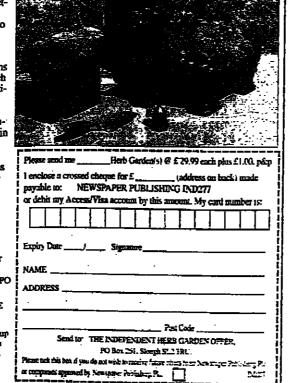
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Dick Walgate, Chairman of the Flying Farmers Association

Our farming operation is unusual in being divided between three parts of the country, hundreds of miles apart. Our main operation at Cuxwold Hall Farm, in Lincolnshire covers 1,700 acres and is largely arable. but there is an outdoor pig unit. Using a light aircraft means I can set off after breakfast, have a full day's work and still have the luxury of being home in time for supper.

Given the state of the motorways, with the horrendous congestion from traffic and road repairs, being able to fly above it all makes for efficiency and the costs can be no greater than running a Range Rover.

I first obtained a pilot's licence in 1955 after taking lessons at Skegness and my Cessna 206, bought in 1980, is the third aircraft of its type we've owned. agement tool and I don't



PURSUITS

On occasions, we've even taken out seats and carried livestock in crates, including deer, as well as spare parts for the machinery.

The thrill of flying has never left me, especially when the weather is glorious over the northern hills and the colours seem to change weekly - but it is always a challenge and you never know what each trip has in store.

My wife, Rachel, somebut my labradors fly with me all the time. They are Above all else, it's a man- always needed on the batics in an old RAF airground. Increasingly, farmers are seeing the

use it for recreation. It can be particularly advantages of light airuseful in distributing med- craft and the Flying Farmicines - which we buy in ers Association now has for having access to the bulk - to the various about 400 members. It was skies. farms. I sometimes fly one started 20 years ago and product to another unit if I'm sure we will expand Dick Walgate was talking to we need more of it there. much more. One woman Andrew Morgan.

farmer near Dover uses a light aircraft to run 800 acres by herself. From the air, we can

assess the condition of stock and crops for disease, spot bad drainage, areas missing fertiliser or even mistakes made by contractors. You can pick up a sec-

ond-hand aircraft for about £7,000. Maintenance can be quite expensive - but perhaps no more so than with a Land Rover - and aviation fuel costs about £2.30 a gallon. The Flying Farmers Association offers advice on all aspects of flying, including how to get planning permission for a landing-strip. We also supply maps of the locations of members' farms so that we can land

virtually anywhere for free. On several occasions during the year, a group of 25 farmers might fly to times flies north with me study-visits, such as fruit to see the grandchildren or sugar-beet farms or machinery demonstrations. Years ago, when I working animals and are was younger, I did aerocraft I bought but these days my aeroplane is purely an agricultural tool. I think I'm a better farmer

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LAKE DISTRICT: START HERE

If copyright laws applied to inspiration, Wordsworth and Coleridge could have made a fortune. Their wanderings in Westmorland, and the poetry thus produced, persuades millions of visitors to stream to the Lakes. Even in the week before Easter, the traditional start of "summer" in the North West, hikers and holidaymakers were coursing in their thousands around the constricted veins of England's most mountainous region.

Wandering lonely as a cloud around the blob to the left of the M6 (as it has unkindly been described) is an impractical proposition these days. But the romantic poets, with their syrupy copywriting, were doing us a favour to draw us to an area which constantly begs the tag "Outstanding Natural Beauty."

The last word should be left to a less-celebrated writer, one H M Tomlinson. In a second-hand bookshop, I spotted this quotation: "No need to go out of England for adventure. Adventure is never anywhere unless we make it. Chance releases it; some unexpected incidence of little things. The trouble is to know it in time, when we see it." As I first discovered some time ago, adventure pervades the Lake District.

No map, no compass, just a slab of mint cake

When Simon Calder first went to the Lakes he was six, and ill-equipped. Now he's older, wiser and better prepared

rom Ambleside, you need not push too far west towards the sea to escape the convoluted one-way system and twee "tea shoppes". Ascend past Little Langdale Tarn, in the general direction of the Old Man of Coniston, and you quickly leave the tackier touches of civilisation behind.

The turf springs back combatively, tougher and more resilient. The web of dry-stone walls, man's valiant effort to use the stuff of the mountains to harness the hills, thins as you climb higher and finally melts into the moor.

Your pulse increases in line with the sharpening gradient. The track loses focus and dissolves into shingle. Way back, any traffic noise was drowned by strident huffs of wind, laced with the arrogant cackles of birds more adapted than you to these sorts of heights.
It was about here that I realised my

companions had vanished. A pair of skinny legs, unused to these sorts of demands, had let me down. There was no way back that I could determine, nor any clear path ahead. One course of action remained: I duly burst into tears.

Being six, I didn't have a map. I had only recently got to grips with reading words (the shorter the better), so deciphering an Ordnance Survey chart and/or a compass would have been beyond me. All the Elfins had disappeared, along with the Pioneers. Worse still, the grown-ups had gone, too. The Woodcraft Folk outing of which I had initially been part had diminished to a single, woeful Woodcraft person.

My parents know a good deal when they see one. In the Sixties, the opportunity to get rid of the kids for a week - sorry, encourage self-development in a structured environment - cost only £4 including the coach fare from Crawley. So I was despatched, under the watchful eye of my big sister Sarah, aged seven, for a week of camping in Langdale with the Woodcraft Folk.

Returning to the Lakes a week ago, a lot older and a little wiser, it was a relief to see that nothing had changed much from that first big adventure. The approach to the Lakes, as you climb tions: some are jagged and concave, from the ungainly sprawl of Kendal ripped apart by retreating glaciers, but

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towards the peaks, is still an aweinspiring aperitif. The clumsy sweep of the Pennines surrenders to a shuffle of mountains and slender, brooding lakes - from heroic, serpentine Ullswater to the tranquillity of Langdale Tarn.

Even at the end of March, the winter's dousing of snow clings to the higher peaks in precisely the manner pre-scribed on the lids of fancier boxes of chocolate. This topping sparkles from an assortment of sky-scraping formations: some are jagged and concave,

the highest preserve is the simple geometric, volcanic perfection of the sort preferred (and most easily sketched) by the average six-year-old. The Old Man of Coniston leaps from a hazy horizon. resembling the ghostliest and mightiest mountain of Mordor from The Hobbit.

J R R Tolkein never specifies the heights of the Mordor range, but it is a safe bet that they topped England's tallest mountains. Expressed in feet, four of the Lakes' peaks exceed 3,000; stated in metres, even mighty Scafell fails to make four figures, scoring a

measly 977m. There are entire coun-

tries which never sink to such depths. Yet while altitude sickness is unlikely to trouble even an inept six-year-old, the drama of the setting is indisputable. When the gods pinched the sides of Cumbria together, they created a stage waiting for poets and tourists. It proved too much for our coach: accustomed to the gentle slopes of Sussex, the vehicle became temporarily lodged on a Langdale pike in the manner of the last scene of The Italian Job. This time, I arrived by rail and kitted

Heroic Ullswater, the most easterty

myself out at Wearing's store in Ambleside. I bought maps and a compass, plus a slab of the Kendal mint cake that had devoured my last sixpence in the Sixties. Soon I found the north-facing field that sloped down to a brook where we had camped for a week. In August '62, several fellow campers were nearly washed away in the deluge that turned our site into the region's newest lake. Any glamour that I had associated with travel was promptly extinguished. But by next day the water had drained into the babbling stream at the foot of the field. I earnt a badge for building a squib of a fire; I also earnt a tickingoff for financial recklessness, spending all my pocket money by day two.

The Woodcraft Folk, which last year celebrated its 75th anniversary, has its roots in the Co-operative movement. Parents perturbed by the God, Country and single-sex aspects of Scouts and Guides can enrol their offspring in a group based upon the rudiments of socialism. At the end of each evening, we sang the Red Flag rather than God Save the Queen. The days were spent, weather permitting, indulging in a glo-rious, junior Outward Bound course.

The old stone bridge spanning the river where we swam is still there, as is the ringing in my ears about the risk of a dead animal upstream and hence the wisdom of keeping one's mouth firmly closed. Sarah proved our elders right by single-handedly discovering a sheep's skeleton. The froth on the water - now clear of ovine debris matches the shade of silver on the slender trunks of birches. The trees confer around a glade from which a tempting track ascends. Soon I was high above the valley, scrunching against the odd clump of snow and cherishing my fortune in making this journey twice. The Lakes looked so peaceful, so intensely beautiful, I could have wept.

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The Sang

Cake With Wordsworth, Wainwright and a strong pair of walking boots you really can't go wrong

By Adam Lechmere

he fuel system on the car the Lakes. You can climb Helvellyn get the blood circulating, but that didn't mean an 18-mile trek waggon Pike – and they look benign over the hills to get a pint of milk. but severe in the sunlight. After about 24 hours, however, we realised that to be without a car was puted stars of the Lake District, the greatest good fortune that could

are wild and beautiful, or rugged, or feel that stem poetic presence. Everyremote. There are lakes, there are thing becomes inspirational: an old there is nothing quite like the com- a miner's hut, a stunted hawthorn pleteness and the compactness of clinging to the bank of the lake.

packed up as we breasted in the morning and on a clear day Kirkstone Pass, just south of you can see the hills for miles Ullswater. We had anticiaround, and over to the west, the pated a few healthy walks to sea. The peaks have hard but com-

Wordsworth, one of the two undisthought nothing of walking the 18 miles from Grasmere to Keswick and Other parts of the British Isles back again. Wherever you go, you mountains, there are moors. But gatepost poking up from the ruins of

The other great presence is Wainwright. An amateur cartographer, he charted every peak in the Lake District, a labour that fills seven volumes with handwritten text and pen and ink drawings. He recommends paths and shortcuts, alternatives for fine weather and foul. Every hill is mapped from every angle, and there is still room for comments like To the east [Dove Crag] presents a scarred and rugged face, a face full of character and interest". With Wordsworth, Wainwright and a good

pair of boots, you can't go wrong. On the last day we walked over to Grasmere and stopped at Dove Cottage, where Wordsworth lived at for the horrors of Dove Cottage.

the beginning of the last century. Preserved since 1891, it gives an idea The path follows the valley below of life in a middle-class household Helvellyn, with the jagged outline of Striding Edge visible most of the way. Fields of sheep give way to a rocky climb up to Grisedale Tarn, and from there you can see Gras-

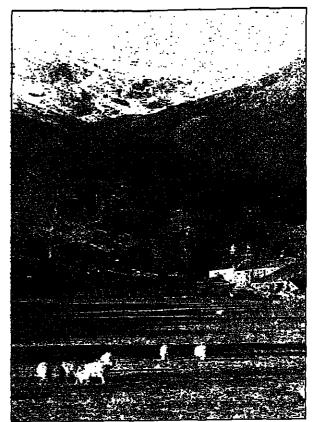
mere glinting in the next valley.

The town of Grasmere is a rude shock after a few days of empty mountains. The Prelude Hotel, the chintzy arcades, the tea-rooms with their off-hand staff and the shops selling cutesy animals and perfumed wooden fruit all make you want to run straight back to the hills.

Yet Grasmere was worth visiting

of life in a middle-class household 150 years ago. Cold, damp, dark and dirty: the walls in the kitchen had to be whitewashed every five months. The house was full of family, assorted opium addicts and children Coleridge and son, De Quincey and daughters. There is a wonderful portrait of Coleridge, painted in the depths of his "enslavement", looking bloated and mad, more

drugged toff than poet. We took a taxi back to Patterdale. "Me, I don't walk. I'm too lazy," the driver said. It was then that we realised we hadn't missed the car for



LAKELAND DEPARTURES

ravellink is the name of the Cumbria County Council's bus, boat and rail information line; call 01228 812812 from 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday.

Numerous special deals are available for the visitor. Stagecoach Cumberland, which runs buses in the Lake District, has a oneday family ticket (two adults, two children) which allows unlimited travel for £9.99. For £5.01 more, the Lakes and Furness Day Ranger is a permit for rail travel as well as Windermere lake cruises. The most useful bus for visitors is the 555, which runs from Kendal to

and Ambleside. A Day Out ticket from NorthWest Regional Railways allows travel from stations in North Wales and North West England

Keswick via Windermere

to the Lake District for a fixed price of £9.90, if you book by 8pm the day before. This saves nearly 50 per cent on the normal fare from Manchester, for example.

The Ullswater Navigation and Transit Company, which began sailing in 1855, starts its 1996 services tomorrow. Its vessels are Victorian: Lady of the Lake, built in 1877, and the Raven, younger by 12 years. Call 01539 721626 for times and fares.

Today the season begins for the Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway (01229 717171). Steam-hauled trains cover the seven miles from the coast to Dalegarth in 40 minutes, on rails with a gauge of just 15 inches. An Eskdale Explorer (two adults plus two children, or three adults) costs £14.50.

SIMON CALDER



Door old Cunard. The venerable shipping line, founded by Samuel Cunard in Liverpool in 1840, has been hounded by bad luck. The holing and subsequent evacuation of the Cunardowned Royal Viking Sun near Aqaha, Jordan is just the latest in a sequence of curses upon the line. The Titanic belonged to the White Star Line, a company which Cunard

later took over. Disasters since then have been mainly of the public relations variety, such as the occasion when the company's flagship, the Oueen Elizabeth 2, ran aground off the northeast United States. The nadir was the re-launch of the QE2 in 1994 after a £30m refit. The event took place before the work had been

completed.
"So much went wrong," reported the Independent that it is hard to pick the real lowlight. VIPs were shown around what was little better than a buidling site, visitors jostling for space with contractors and tripping over cleaners buckets." Cunard paid £7.5 million to dissatisfied passengers on that voyage.

At least Cunard gives its passengers the opportunity to sail. I am still waiting for the chance to try out the new Stena Line HSS, a high-speed ferry that, in theory, takes you from Holyhead to Dun Laoghaire in 99 smooth minutes. Three "definite" start dates have been given over the past three months: 1 October, 1 March and 30 March. I am not pinning my hopes on travelling on the latest deadline, 9 April.

Should the shipping business look like a ropey one to be in, at least it is better than running a state-owned airline. Olympic Airways has just sacked its chairman and chief executive. Rigas Doganis, despite his producing the Greek carrier's first good financial results for years. Professor Doganis is

sanguine about his loss of office. He told me this week that "running a stateowned airline consists of long periods of crisis management interspersed with short periods of catastrophe management." Perhaps he would like a job at Cunard.

o get from Aldwych to Ongar by tube, change trains at Holborn and Epping. So say three brand-new guide books: Let's Go: Europe 1996, the latest Rough Guide to England and the AA Cityguide to London. All carry maps showing Aldwych and Ongar on the London Underground network. But both stations closed 18 months ago.

As the guidebook writer who published a book on Eastern Europe with the memorable line "There seems no end in sight to the Ceausescu dynasty' about a week before the Romanian dictator was deposed, I am painfully aware of the perishable nature of the information in guides.

So too are Rough Guides and AA Publishing, neither of which claim infallibility. But Let's Go assures the world that the writers of its books "check every fact, every year". You could take the charitable view that the closures of these two stations came too late for the '95 edition, but on the very first page of the Let's Go '96 is the rather less than true "fact" that Aldwych to Ongar is a trivial journey by tube.

Don't rely on guide books to settle arguments, either. When a colleague claimed that since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Canada is the world's biggest country, I reached for the new Lonely Planet guide to Russia, Belarus and Ukraine to prove him wrong. "Russia is the world's biggest country", it says in black and white. Unconvinced, he checked the same publisher's guide to Canada: "Canada is the world's biggest country".

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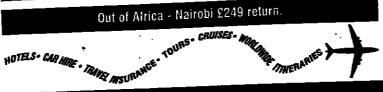
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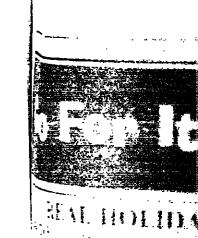
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For Lilliput, read Lisbon

Portugal's capital is an apt setting for the new dramatisation of Gulliver's Travels. By Michael Church

here's always something dangerous about Lisbon, something darkly mysterious, as though it's the edge of the world. With its colonial roots in Africa, Goa, and Brazil, it doesn't really feel like Europe. Two centuries ago it was immensely rich, now it's grindingly its gorgeous vistae and crumbling architecture. poor: its gorgeous vistas and crumbling architectural beauties offer a cocktail that film-makers, in particular, seem unable to resist.

its. The French enfant-terrible Cyril Collard chose a lighthouse overlooking the Tagus as the location for a pre-emptive docu-drama about his own death from Aids: not so much the edge of the world, more its actual end. The caretaker of the 18th-century monastery at Cabo Espichel has lost count of the film-makers using it as a location: a dusty Miss Havisham of a church, proud in a bare

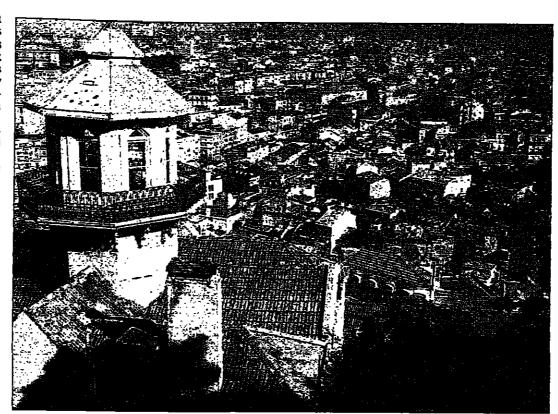
The Ted Danson-Mary Steenburgen dramatisa-tion of Gulliver's Travels, which Channel 4 is broadcasting this weekend, draws much of its force from the palaces, streets, and beaches amid which its action unfolds: for Lilliput, read Lisbon. But read on: what producer Duncan Kenworthy and director Charles Sturridge have created is a paean to all the loveliest places in the region.

When Gulliver makes his triumphal entry into

Lilliput, he does so via Lisbon's mosaic-paved Rua Augusta, along which tourists normally troop in their thousands. When he peers through a window into the Lilliputians War Room, he is actually peering into the library of the palace of Mafra, an 18thcentury architectural jewel where no film crew has been allowed before. As Kenworthy points out, the beauty of this location lay in its unrestored, stilllived-in quality. He had originally planned to use the crazily Romantic palace of Pena, but, by the time they came to shoot, it had been painted a Disneyish yellow.

Palaces, palaces ... the 17th-century National Palace of Ajuda serves as the site where Gulliver is first brought before the Lilliputian emperor and his court. And the exquisite palace of Queluz, with its classical gardens and halls of mirrors, is the setting for Gulliver's meeting with the giant queen of Brobdingnag. Built by a French architect as an homage to Versailles, it was long used for royal receptions, and now serves as a concert venue as well as a tourist haunt.

Byron was mind-blown by the beauty of Monserrate Park, just outside Sintra. With its mock-oriental palace and sub-tropical gardens, this makes the ideal backdrop for Swift's kingdom of Laputa. And, with its cooling summer mists, the ideal refuge. I'd say, when the coast gets too hot.





Win a Gulliver-inspired weekend in Lisbon

o mark the broadcast of Gulliver's Travels on Channel 4 this weekend, the Independent has joined forces with specialist tour operator The Magic of Portugal to offer a long weekend in

and around Lisbon. The winner of our competition will fly from London to Lisbon on TAP Air Portugal and spend three nights at the superior four-star Hotel Lisboa Plaza, centrally located for making the most of the Portuguese capital.

During the course of the threenight stay a sightseeing tour will be offered to the beautiful towns of Sintra and Mafra, which also feature in the film.

The Magic of Portugal is an award-winning holiday specialist, offering holidays to Lisbon, Sintra, the Douro Valley, Madeira and the Alentejo. For a free brochure featuring quality hotels and villas. telephone 01233 211619. For information on flights with TAP Air Portugal call 0171-828 0962.

How to enter

Answer these three





1. What former Portuguese colony has just opened an airport for the first time, served from Lisbon and Brussels by TAP Air Portugal?

2. In which year will Lisbon host the next International Expo?

3. Unscramble trains to reach your destination outside Lisbon?

... and in 20 words or less suggest the ideal destination for a weekend getaway for Gulliver - and why!

Send your entry to Gulliver, Travel, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, to arrive no later than Friday 19 April.

Usual Newspaper Publishing plc rules apply. The prize is non-transferable and no cash alternative can be offered. The holiday is subject to availability and must be taken during July 1996.

EUROPEAN DEPARTURES

Train travellers in the Netherlands can benefit from a range of special deals from Holland Rail. First, the Train Taxi scheme which is available at 80 stations around the country. For a flat fare of 6 guilders (about £2.50), you can take a taxi from the station to any destination within the town or city limits (sadly the the scheme doesn't apply in Amsterdam, the Hague or Rotterdam). For the same amount, cyclists can rent a bike from selected stations for the whole day. And if you want to see an entire country in a day, Holland is the place to do it. A one-day rover ticket allowing rail travel anywhere in Holland costs £27, and £3 more buys unlimited bus and tram travel within towns and cities.

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Disabled travellers are not getting the help they might from the European Commission, according to the newly revised Disabled Traveller (free from BSS, PO Box 7, London W5 2GQ: send a large sae with 62p in stamps). The author, Alison Walsh, says a series of guidebooks for disabled people have yet to be published by the Commission. despite the manuscripts having been delivered at the end of 1994.

he cool new weekend destination is Riga, Latvia's capital, accessible four times weekly from Gatwick on Air Baltic (0171-828 4223) for £269. Organised trips are available through Gunnel Travel Service (01473 828855) or Regent Holidays (0117-921 1711).

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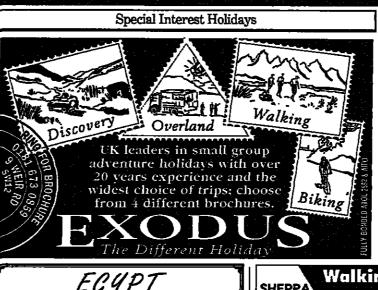
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I want to go to unspoilt Spain. But can I be sure I'm not going to damage it myself?

Our monthly series in which Jeremy Skidmore answers readers' questions about their travel concerns





environmentally sensitive tour operator. Can !?

Yes. But remember that people mean different things when they talk about being environmentally sensitive. Many companies have jumped on to the environment bandwagon because they think it will make them appeal to more people. To qualify as environmentally sensitive, tour operators need to do more than merely recommend to their clients that they take their litter home. Those that do qualify are the ones that donate money to projects in areas where they send holidaymakers. Planos' Spain at Heart programme operates in unspoilt villages in Andalucia and the operator supports a government-sponsored scheme of developing abandoned farmhouses. For a full list of environmentally sensitive tour operators contact the Association of Independent Tour Operators on 0181-744 9280.

I'm not convinced about my travel agent's ability to give reliable and up-to-date information regarding safety in politically unsteady destinations. Should I call the appropriate embassy myself?

No, your travel agent should be able to give you all the up-to-date information that you require. The Association of British Travel Agents receives constantly updated infor-

Above: Olvera, Andalucia, an unspoilt corner of Spain.
Tour operators must do more than recommend their clients simply take their litter home with them if the

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mation from the Foreign Office about destinations which it relays to travel agents. If you are still not convinced, then contact the Foreign Office yourself on 0171-270 4129; (from 18 April, call 0171-238 4503).

Returning from Indonesia my surfboard was broken in transit. However, because I travelled by two different airlines, neither would take responsibility. What is the airline's responsibility towards damaged articles?

The carriage of items that are termed "fragile", like surfboards, is a bit of a minefield. It is important that before you travel you establish liability in the event of goods being damaged, especially if you are travelling on some of the less established airlines which may not have as rigid a code of conduct as the major carriers. Your travel agent should be able to advise you. Generally speaking, you have to pay an additional cost at check-in for the transport of "fragile goods", which includes surfboards, televisions, stereos and tape recorders. The charges vary, but across a broad selection of airlines, the average fee was \$50 (£31). At this stage you must establish if the fee covers you for the entire journey. With some airlines it will, but with others it may only cover you for that leg of the journey. Also, if you want to make sure that the surfboard does not get broken, it must be properly

packaged. If it is not, the airline will probably still accept it but may make you sign a "limited release waiver", which basically means that the airline is not liable if it gets

I had a lovely winter holiday with Horizon and remarked to my travel agent that I would go with them again. But I was told there won't be a Horizon brochure next winter. Has the company gone out of business?

No. Horizon is a brand that belongs to Thomson, the biggest tour operator in the country. Thomson shows no sign of going out of business, but has admitted that sales for its Horizon brand have been slipping. Horizon now accounts for only around 3 per cent of Thomson's winter and summer sales, which are approximately 1m and 3m respec-tively. Thomson has decided that it no longer makes economic sense to publish a separate winter brochure for Horizon. so it has put the hotels from that brand into its other programmes, which include Portland, Thomson Winter Sun and Thomson Young at Heart. Many think that the Horizon name will also disappear for summer 1997 but Thomson insists that no decision has yet been made about that because the Horizon programme is much bigger in the summer than in the winter. It also points out that while there is very little difference between

Thomson and Horizon in the winter, as they both offer four-star hotels, there is in the summer when Thomson tends to feature mainly three-star properties and Horizon mainly four-star hotels.

I enjoy travelling alone, but am increasingly frustrated by single supplements. Prices are often higher and accommodation inferior. How does the industry justify this?

It justifies the single supplements by explaining that hotels in resorts base their prices on two people sharing. A hotelier may charge a tour operator £100 per person per week, but that is based on two people staying in each room. A single traveller will end up paying more than others, and could be put in a pokey little room – hardly fair. However, the situation is improving as hoteliers and tour operators realise that there are more and more single travellers. Indeed, many of the newer hotels do not have pokey little single rooms. Also many tour operators waive single supplements if you travel outside the peak season of July and August. Single people often like to travel off-peak, when resorts are not

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splendour of the Sacre Coeur Basilica and the Notre Dame Cathedral; the richness of the Louvre Museum; the vibrancy of the Champs Elysees and the sheer scale of the awe inspiring Eiffel Tower. Or why not visit Lille, the former

capital of French Flanders. It offers a rich collection of architectural curiosities including the pentagonal Citadel fortress built by Vauban, and many enticing restaurants dotted around the city. Brussels holds plentiful attractions, ranging from historic sights to superb restaurants, stylish shops and cafes.

If you would like to stay a little longer in either Paris or Brussels, then you can make use of our second offer. With our Short Break, you can stay in a small, friendly hotel, right in the heart of Paris or Brussels. Prices start from £109 per person

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and four star hotels upwards, from £8 per person per night. Listed on this page are details of the hotels.

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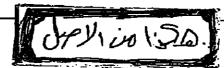
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The spirit of the Ancients

Galileo, Goethe, Palladio: they all came to Rome. So did Matthew Hoffman, who spent a long weekend retracing their steps on a motor scooter

for a long weekend gave me a copy of Goethe's Letters from Italy, in one of those little Penguin 60p editions. As I flew over the clouds at 500 miles per hour, I settled back to follow Goethe's more leisurely progression 200 years ago by horse-drawn carriage down through the Italian peninsula. To my delight I discovered that Goethe had lingered in the Veneto, taking time to examine the Renaissance buildings of Andrea Palladio, as I too had done last September. And the effect on both of us of coming to know this architect's work was similar. "Palladio," Goethe observed, "was strongly imbued with the spirit of the Ancients... [He] has opened [this] to me, and the way to all art and life as well." (Well, perhaps, my enthusi-asm for Palladio is slightly more tempered; but I think I know what Goethe is getting at. The balance and proportion evident in Palladio's work seems to betoken the possibility of a moral, as well as an aesthetic, harmony in the

When Doug Hall and Diane Andrews, artists from San Francisco who are at the American Academy in Rome for a year (he to complete a video and photography project and she to paint the Italian sky) invited me to visit them. I decided to give focus to my trip by searching out the Roman remains that Palladio himself had studied in the 1540s and 1550s. I would look at Ancient Rome through Palladio's eyes, and modern Rome through Doug and Diane's

Although I had defined my weekend as five days - arrive Thursday afternoon, depart Monday evening - I would never have seen as much as I did if it had not been for Doug's motorino - motor scooters, I soon realised, are the way Romans in a hurry get about.

You can see a lot from the back of a

friend who knew I was going to Rome for a long weekend gave me a copy of Vinci airport at 2.30 pm. By 4.30, I was perched on the back of Doug's 50cc Honda, and within an hour or two we had seen Bramante's famous Tempietto; buzzed about Trastevere, the Piazza Farnese, the Campo dei Fiori, and the Piazza Navona; admired Caravaggio's Madonna di Loretto in the church of Sant'Agostino; explored the pre-Christian vaults of the Stadium of Domitian beneath Sant'Agnese in Agone; picked out with my spyglass touching and beguiling details in the reliefs on the Column of Marcus Aurelius; looked with baffled amazement at Andrea Pozzo's trompe l'œil dome in the Jesuit church of Sant' Ignazio; come across Silvio Berlusconi standing with other government dignitaries next to a hearse outside Sant' Ignazio; and, finally, stopped to sample ice cream at one of the famous gelateria near the Pantheon.

The next morning the three of us went to the Vatican museums: Diane to look at portraits in the Pinacoteca, Doug to photograph the tourists and I to see again the Raphael Stanze and the Sistine chapel. Although it was winter there were still too many tourists crowding the little Raphael rooms for me to enjoy the painted walls and ceilings - also I was probably exhausted from my earlier concentration on Michaelangelo's grand fresco cycle. We had entered the Sistine Chapel at about 11am, and I had immediately found a quiet corner to sit down with my spyglass and look up at the ceiling. An hour and a half later I staggered up to Diane at the other end of the room, having no idea how long I had been immersed in Michaelangelo's grand conception. The cleaning of the paintings may well, as the critics contend, have removed some of the intended patina from the figures, but it has also made it possible to discern with ease so much more detail and for me, at least, the trade-off has been revelatory.



dral Church of St John Lateran, visible several

miles away from the Janiculum. They were

astounded, and acclaimed him a genius. The

moral was supposed to be that most people are

more concerned about the mundane than the

exalted; but for me the point was the simple

sightseer's delight in discovering that I was stay-ing where Galileo Galilei had once gone about

Saturday and Sunday were golden days:

cloudless empyrean skies allowed a classic

Mediterranean light to colour the marble

remains of Ancient Rome with delicate tints

and sharp shading. On these two days, with the

assistance of Doug's motorino, I saw and pho-

tographed the Roman and Imperial Forums,

his business.

glorious shambles at the heart of

Left: The

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Below: A motorino the best way to get

the Palatine Hill, the Arch of Constantine, the Colosseum, the baths of Caracalla and the tombs of the Appian Way. Palladio, I soon realised, had seen a very different scene when

he stood at these places. Archaeological excavations were just beginning, and much was still buried: on the other hand, a great deal that was

there then has since been removed. The sense

of half-revealed splendour, however, must

have been the same. Monday morning was devoted to the Pan-

theon, "the best-preserved monument of Ancient Rome" (Blue Guide), and the most important to Palladio. I've been in bigger

buildings, of course; but none that felt grander. This may be because of the remarkable proportions: when you stand at the centre of the floor, you are at the bottom of an imaginary

sphere whose upper half is the dome. The circular walls that surround you define the diameter of that sphere. The sun passes directly

above the open space in the centre of the dome

at midday. A moment before noon that day a

cloud lifted from the sky, and the building flooded with light. Flying back to London that evening, I read

with wry recognition the concluding remarks from Goethe's Italian letters:

character remains unchanged."

"No one who has not been here can have any conception of what an education Rome is. One is, so to speak, reborn and one's former ideas seem like a child's swaddling clothes. Here the most ordinary person becomes somebody, for his mind is enormously enlarged even if his

easter jumbo crossword

Cryptic

Across

- 1 Get QC to pucker lips when not holding litter-dropper's attention? Impossible!
- (4,1,4,5,3,2,1,4,3) Mature set of people receptive to certain points
- Bourgeois keep-fit group concentrating on waistline? (6-5) Where to see familiar tankengine with tender on
- railway? (7) Huckster's daily beat around city (9)
- Kept quiet (8) Chap with an old-fashioned
- air? (8) What'll produce generally endless disorder.? (8)
- 23 Poking a hooligan in the abdomen as an
- afterthought? (9) Pathetic inducement rejected when there's a lot of money about (8) Use of "non-biological"
- that's lacking theoretical justification? (12) Comparatively blessed by
- worldly inheritance? (6) Paper required by area manager (4) Period in Office of Strategic
- Services for group of native Americans (6) Man's accepting promissory note without interest (7)
- Ceremonial induction this month gets everyone into a muddle (12) Previous record-holder in
- Carlisle event (6) Mock Italian appearing in Greek cloak with front undone (9)

- 42 Style of garment for which we've to thank the Tailor and Cutter.? (6-4)
- Exercising caution is not primarily signified thereby (10) Reduce girl's status (9) Arrest Greek character amid some commotion (6)
- Buckinghamshire town's involved in dramatic features presented by Oxford and Cambridge (12)
- Salary put in the post, with gratuity included (7) Elevated railway seen from
- parade? (4-2) Theocratic state encapsulated in Irish article (4)
- Doctor's entertained by a junior officer? Not quite (6) Go over exciting features of a cup-tie later (12)
- Repository of essential information which may be hard to crack (8) Incompetent master NUT
- deemed due for change (9) Gangster in neckerchief accorded very quick service (8) Personal application which may be retracted? (8)
- Scotsman found associating with girl restricts his masculine pride (8) What's in the bank I spend too extravagantly (2,7)
- Loth initially to put on American pinafore, becoming yet more vociferous? (7)
- Sadly err, repent it, and give another explanation (11) A question applied to a corps one's put in tanks (7) In reality, ensuring there's no waste? (5,10,4,3,5)

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around £160 including tax; scheduled flights through the same agency, travelling on Alitalia, cost £205 in April. British Airways

Who to ask
The Italian State Tourist Office, 1 Princes St,
London W1R 8AY (0171-408 1254).

Letters from Italy by Goethe (Penguin, 60p); The Blue Guide to Rome (A&C Black,

That evening we went with some members

of the Academy to one of those little trattoria,

in Trastevere - managed by the padrone and his

wife - that the guide books say are disappear-ing (Hostaria "Gran Sasso", Via S. Francesco

a Rina, 92). Over our dinner of spaghetti von-

gole, grilled scampi and a delicious version of bubble-and-squeak, the architectural conser-

vator of the Academy, Cristina Puglisi, told me

of how Galileo had demonstrated his telescope

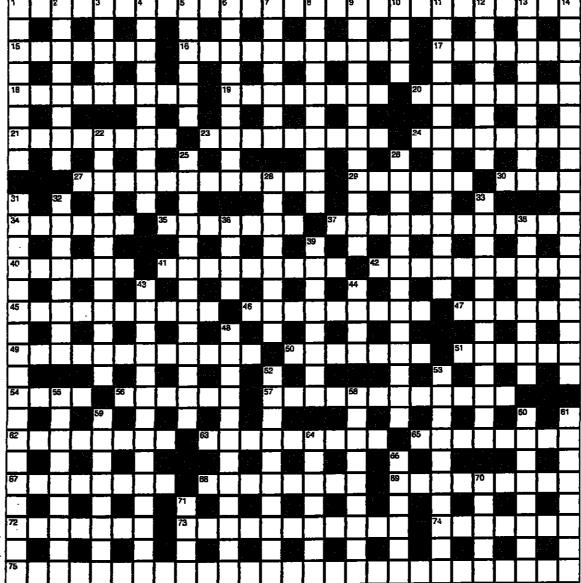
to some Roman notables from the roof of a

small building in the Academy garden that she

was in the process of restoring. At first he

showed them the craters on the moon, but they

were not particularly impressed; then he trained the device on a Latin inscription on the cathe-



Concise

Across

- Bank of England (3, 4, 2, 12, 6)
- Engraving (7) Hot drink laced with
- spirit (5, 6) Non-native plants (7)
- Apparatus for reducing vapour to liquid form
- Oversight (8) Bookish (8)
- Ghostly (8) Enthusiastic user of
- party political catchwords (9) Front leg (8)
- Unremarkable quality
- 29 Highland smallholdings Surfeit (4) Sickness (6)
- Animosity (3-4) Persuasively commending oneself to someone's favour (12) Peculiarity (6)
- Exclude from society (9) Vegetable pickle (10) In a longing fashion (10) Inconvenience (9)
- Protective headgear (6) Relating to art forms which eschew idealization (12) Word formed by
- rearrangement of letters At once (6) Headland (4)
- Goblin (6) Programming for a different time or date
- Concerned with industry or business (8)
- Route (9) Stowing away (8) Reminded (8)
- Sound quality (9) 69 Girl's name (7) Doing away with (11) **7**3
- Husbandry (7) 75 First line of hymn (3, 6, 4, 2, 5, 2, 5)
- - The first correct cryptic solution, and the first concise solution,

Down

- Isolated area in which soldier
- spies for wizard (8) Bar-room bores encountering no obstacle in Kansas (8)
- Girl coming over mid-July having to cancel (5) Eagerness, as Bunthorne's
- bride might have said (10) King has one record, but it's got two sleeves (6)
- Suffered rising neocommunist to enter a French territory (9) Production of Lassie one's
- seen somewhere in Germany once? (7) Incident in which military
- leader's given a lot of money
- by European (10) Identify group within society needing vital dietary
- constituent? (5,7) Firm must be quick off the mark (4)
- Top secret factory picked out in mimosa? (9,5) 12 Duke conveyed by frigate into custody (8)
- Crustacean caught in river the French find of very poor quality (9) 14 Only managerial post re-
- established in Warwickshire town (5,10,3) 22 Several dozen Revs due to be
- 25 Purpose is to discourage people blocking motorway
- 26 Type of film censored by hateful regent! (7-6) 28 Infant running around Open
- University's omamental feature (8) Walk with stick? Its members
- may! (14,4) Risk a wet, if careless? (5-Till we meet in the old corner
- shop? (4.8) Keen on appearing in print, obviously (4) Rig tailored for pagan

worshipper (8)

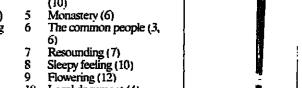
39 Cream possibly for public consumption (8)

Type of engine oil, very

- exciting? (6-8) Break in game (4) Court will support bishop's office, mostly, on heresy and bigotry (12)
- Suffering chest ailment, as one 64 in grip of chronic TB, possibly? (10) British hospital tackled a difficult admission - bubonic
- plague (5,5) Hors d'ocuvres dreadfully inapt with sweet white wine 58 Source of fragrance used by
- Comic act, thing that gets us talking (8) Hamburger in the kitchen?

Church of Rome, we hear (9)

- 61 Man's written first article rubbish, leading to complaint Wind causing one to be absent
- from abortive court case? (7) Drink makes you laugh immoderately going to church 70 Sullen expression worn by
- student in Orpington, maybe Smile as Rector is possessed by spirit (4)



by Spurius

Legal document (4) Branch of physics (14) Capable of being turned against the user (3-5) Leading article (9) RC doctrine (18)

Cloudy (8)

Remain (5)

Drink container (8)

Former Balkan federation

Three-hundredth anniversary (12) Last emperor of Ethiopia Passes used by ship or

plane travellers (8, 5) Selecting or borrowing from a variety of systems 31 Shakespeare play (6, 3,

32 Fourth part of a circle (8) Devices for lessening friction of revolving parts

Hospital room (4) Light up (8) Amazes (8) Desk light (10, 4) Banner(4)

Taking a superficial rather than professional interest (12) Written copy (10)

Clumsy (4-6) Device used in burglar alarms etc (9) Japanese city devastated in 1945 (9)

Full (8) Smarten up (8) Type of paper with slightly rough finish (8)

Hand joints (8) Acquire skill or knowledge again (7) Goal (6)

Summer dish (5) 70 71 Venerable monk and historian (4)

pulled from the sack on 25 April will each win a copy of the new OUP Dicitorary of National Biography on CD-ROM. Ten runners up (five cryptic and five concise) will be sent the Dicitonary of Euphemisms and the Companion to English Literature. Please mark your entries Easter Jumbo cryptic or concise and send them to: PO Box 4015, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL

A fortune for your passions

There may be a heavy price to pay for creating your dream home. By Rosalind Russell

Tony James, the musician, is leaving behind the mews house and record-Hobbs and her husband - actor and racehorse breeder Frazer Hines - are looking for a buyer for their Yorkshire home. They've recently paid a fortune for its new designer stableyard. Writer and broadcaster Paul Heiney and his wife Libby Purves are selling the organic smallholding they have sweated over for six years. They have all adapted their homes for their abiding passions, yet they have decided to bale out. Not an easy decision.

Finding a new home is no easier. The house Willi Elsener, executive chef at The Dorchester, and his wife Jayne had hoped to buy at auction last week went to a higher bidder. "It was not meant to be, but there will be another one," says Willi, his spirits rising as gently as a souffle.

Staying put for the time being will be no hardship for the Elseners. Their four-bedbought the house four years ago, the kitchen was a square box with some appliances," says Willi. "Now it's bigger by a third, with warm wooden floors, hand-painted units and glearning Neff ovens. It was a year in plan-

ning.
"Spending £40,000 on a kitchen sounds like a lot, but then cooking is my hobby as well as work, I love it," Willi explains. His children are his other passion, as well as the twins he now has a nine-month old daughter - and the family needs more space. The house is being sold through Woolwich Property Services for £279,950.

Property matters are rather different for Tony James, bass player of Generation X. Ten years ago, he bought a mews house in Maida Vale, west London. "It was horrible; hideously and cheaply designed," he recalls

"But I wanted to buy something I could knock down." Janet Street-Porter was his girlfriend at the time and he was impressed by her house, designed by architect Piers Gough. The style was exactly what be'd bad

James worked out his grand design with an architect: a music studio, lots of exposed brickwork and steel girders. A galleried 22ft main bedroom overlooks the reception room, open to the eaves. It cost more than he cares to reveal.

The brief agreed, James set off on a world tour. "I bought interior design magazines in every town and spent thousands of pounds faxing back ideas to the architect." He laughs. "You could say I had a fluid but clear idea of what I wanted." The architect must have had the patience of a saint.

"It's post-modern baroque," suggests James helpfully. Or you might describe it as a "We'll just start look a post-punk ideal home." Well, it was designed bouse. With stables."

op chef Willi Elsener is giving up the as a sex palace. And it worked! I now have a kitchen he has lavished £40,000 on. We girlfriend who has a nine-year-old son. We have different priorities now," says James. Lurot Brand is asking £195,000 for it.

ing studio he employed a top architect to help design. Water ski champion Liz years, he pursued a dream of building and running a traditional, organic smallholding.
"It took months to find the right place. For the first time, the house became unimpor-

> With three Suffolk Punch heavy horses, he ploughed his 35 acres at Vale Farm near Saxmundham. He had no background in farming, but he quickly found himself besot-ted with the lifestyle. Unlike many farmers, who cobble together sheds from bits of corrugated iron, Paul Heiney and Libby Purves spared no cost. All materials were authentic. And expensive. The project galloped towards a cost of £50,000.

"I had expected it to be hard work," he says. "But I wasn't prepared for the 24-hour-a-day responsibility. The livestock seemed to know when I was going away and would plan an escape. I'd return and someone would knock on the door and say, 'We've got room, two-bathroom house in south-west
London is extremely comfortable. "When we they'd been out." When Libby asked for something expensive, black and sexy as a Christmas present, he gave her Alice, a Large Black pig.

I farmed here for six glorious, exhilarating exhausting years," says Heiney. "But it was getting wearing." He has one main regret: "With all this BSE mess, I fear I'm letting the side down. I feel I should still be flying the organic flag." Vale Farm, which now has 14 acres, is on the market with Strutt

Like the Heiney household, Liz Hobbs and her husband Frazer Hines also spent a fortune making their livestock comfortable.
At Ingham Lodge, a single storey ranch-style
building converted from former farm buildings, they have successfully bred a string of

"It was a major investment," says Liz Hobbs, "It is the best there is, Then Frazer wants to go upstairs to bed. Usually if I keep my head down Frazer forgets all about his

place. There is nothing to beat sitting in the the horses munching grass in the paddock."

room is on the market with Blenkin & Co and Knight Frank for £275,000. It's unlikely the couple will recoup anything like the cost of their designer stable yard.

tant and the cowsheds took precedence."

& Parker, at £295,000.

thoroughbred racehorses; they currently own 10. To accommodate them, they commissioned John Goodrick of York - the top name in designer built stableyards - to build a range of luxury equestrian stables.

ideas. But not this one. "I love the house and its inglenook fire-

conservatory after a fraught day, watching The four-bedroom house with beamed interiors and a 29ft conservatory/dining

"What does it matter," says Liz Hobbs. "We'll just start looking for an old manor





their £40,000 kitchen Photograph:

Below: Paul Heiney at his organic farm: 'I wasn't Photograph:

The cost and value of home improvements

You can spend a fortune doing up your house, but when you sell, will your investment pay off? We asked representatives from Cluttons, Ellis & Co, Folkard & Hayward, Hamptons and Winkworth for their opinions.

Kitchens and bathrooms Cluttons: A new kitchen increases the value if it is in line with the rest of the property - but not if the rest of the property still needs to be done up.

Winkworth: You could spend £15-20,000 on a designer kitchen, but the added value to the property might be no more than

£5-10,000. On the other hand, at the cheaper end of the market, an attractive kitchen worth £1,600 could add far more than its cost to the value of the property.

Folkard & Hayward: Kitchens and bathrooms are the main things people look at. A shoddy kitchen can make a property unsaleable - £5-10,000 is a good amount to spend.

Winkworth: A conservatory will almost always add value unless it ruins the garden by eating into it too much. Folkard & Hayward: Conservatories are a

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waste of time in terms of increasing the value - they might make the property more saleable, but they wouldn't increase the value by more than cost.

Cluttons: If a property is newly decorated throughout it will improve the value, but not substantially. It's the location, really, that holds the value.

Ellis & Co: What may devalue a house is someone's esoteric fancy and odd personal taste. If decoration is not to mass appeal the property won't be easy

Extensions

Cluttons: It depends on where you are, particularly in London where many houses are listed. Extending the rear or putting in a loft extension will increase the value of a house because this creates more floor space - particularly extra bedrooms.

Hamptons: People often over-extend upstairs, over a garage perhaps, and not downstairs. This will not add to the value of a house because it makes an odd combination. If you have five bedrooms and only one reception room the property isn't balanced.

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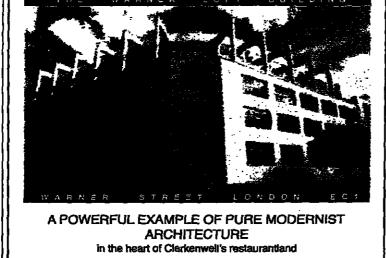
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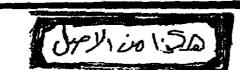
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The 1996 Audi A4 in action. Photograph Andrew Redington/Allsport

rake, man, brake. Frank Biela, World Cup touring car champion, doesn't brake. Instead, he buries the accelington's notorious Craner Curve, a fearsome downhill swoop said to separate the men from the boys. If awe overwhelms plain fear, it is because I have total faith in Biela, the man to beat in this year's British Touring Car Championship. Who better to show me what a BTCC racer can do?

Trussed into the passenger's seat (not normally there) of his Audi A4 quattro, my gaze is torn between the man at the wheel and Donington's familiar ribbon of tarmac, unwinding at fast-forward speed. My head dunks as Biela - like Audi, new to the BTCC car wars thrash - brakes within yards of Old Hairpin, where Nigel Mansell once came to grief. The car flicks right, its slick tyres defying brutal lateral forces bent on pitching us into the crash barrier. We dive into McLeans in a cacophony of clunks and ear-piercing whangs. Without touching the clutch, Biela shifts down thrice in the blink of an eye. Coppice corner is approached over a blind brow at insane speed. He's surely misjudged it. Dunk, clunk-clunk, whaang. The frenzy of mechanical mayhem and skull-rocking "g" ruffles me more than the driver.

Hurthing down the straight, change-up lights blinking on the dash, Biela scans

instruments that dispense with irrelevant 150mph before he hits the brakes 200 yards against the floor. Is it four or five down-shifts while the mighty anchors do their arresting party trick, wiping away lOOmph in a few car lengths? I lose count before the Audi zaps violently through the tight right-left chicane where its four-wheel drive makes the most of over 300 horsepower. We flash past the pits. Redgate corner - and another close encounter - threatens.

Today's BTCC exotics, based on popular mid-range four-door saloons, make cars like the Triumph Dolomite Sprint I once raced look pedestrian. Audi doesn't say what Frank Biela's A4 cost to build, but a factorybacked contender leaves no change from £250,000 according to insiders. And that's just a fraction of a top team's racing budget. Such massive financial commitment is justified because every round of the BTCC, the world's most competitive touring car series, attracts a global television audience of millions. And success on the box trans-

lates into sales.

Beneath their war paint, these gladiatorial machines are recognisable as the breadand-butter models they represent: Audi A4, BMW 318, Ford Mondeo, Honda Accord, Nissan Primera, Peugeot 406, Renault pension. Power steering is essential on

Laguna, Vauxhall Vectra (displacing last information like speed. I guess we're doing year's Cavalier champ) and Volvo 850 - the showrooms - de rigueur. quickest in pre-season testing. Alas, no Alfas tee from a series that will attract 30,000 spectators per race - and even more TV coverage in 1997 to compensate for the BBC's loss of Formula One.

Under the skin, the racers have nothing in common with their showroom counterparts. Getting into the gutted cabin is hampered by a massive tubular cage that provides the driver with safety-cell protection. Following Keith O'Dor's fatal accident last year, side-impact resistance has been substantially increased. All non-essentials like trim, seats and furnishings are discarded. In come fire extinguishers, pneumatic jacks (for

quick wheel-changing) and a cam-corder.
The special, ultra-stiff suspension is so low there's barely room for a cigarette paper between tyre and wheelarch. The lock is abysmal, the turning circle huge; parking manoeuvres are best done with a team of pushers. Big, airy aluminium wheels carry low-profile racing tyres – most cars are on Michelins – that stick to tarmac like gum to a pavement. Huge front disc brakes dwarf those of the underworked back ones. A cabin lever adjusts the front/rear braking balance on the move, another the car's sus-

most cars, digital instruments - spurned in

BTCC racers are powered by 2.0-litre restricted for the sake of durability and equality to 8,500 rpm - modest by racing standards. The engine can be "borrowed" from another model, provided it's of the same make. All the teams claim outputs of around 300 horsepower - though some are being economical with the truth. Whatever the figure, race fettling gives at least double the normal output in a car weighing a third less. As a gesture to political correctness, catalytic converters are obligatory. Silencers are not.

Biela's clunky, clutchless shifts, so quick vou can't time them, do not betray ineptitude but a tough, unrefined six-speed racing gearbox that compels the use of every ratio in sequence: to change down, you push the tall lever, to change up you pull it. To the driver of an ordinary A4, Biela's 160mph racer would seem less like a car than a sauna-heated exercise gym bedecked as a space capsule: you need to be fit and strong to drive it in anger. It helps to be brave and skilful, too.

> The first two rounds of the 26-race Auto Trader BTCC championship take place at Donington on Easter Monday.

So what should you do about your spare tyre?

By Gavin Green

f the first invention in motoring was the wheel, then the longest overdue is a sensible place to put the spare. Car makers have tried almost every place since the first car soluttered into life 100 vears ago. and the first tyre splattered into airlessness

not long after. Old cars used to have them in the front wings. They've been in boots, under floors, bolted on to rear doors, on the roof, under seats and under the bonnet. Some makers don't offer them at all. among them McLaren. maker of the priciest car in the world, the £634,500 FI sports car (nor does it offer a radio: just what do you expect for that sort of money?).

Others offer a risible alternative, the "space saver", which acts as an emergency get-you-home alternative. As the name implies, it is dimensionally challenged. When fitted, it looks like a bicycle wheel. Even worse, it can make your car look (and drive) like a three-wheeler. And as everyone who's ever driven a Reliant Robin knows, that's one wheel

too few. Many people wouldn't know where their car's spare was fitted, let alone how to change it - as the RAC or AA would be only too happy to confirm. The favoured place in small hatchbacks is currently a wire cage under the back of the car.

The French popularised the idea in cars such as the Peugeot 205. One revelation of that excellent little car was the vast boot space. A reason was that there was no Instead, it was underneath. This proved popular throughout Europe with people who loved all that extra carrying capacity in the tail. It also proved popular in Britain with thieves who appreciated the exposed nature of a valuable item. It was a particular

problem on the 205 GTi, which had nifty and very covetable alloy wheels. Many 205 GTi owners woke up to find their spare wheels had gone, and found the remains of the wire cage scattered on the ground underneath the car.

Since then, other bestsellers such as the Renault Clio and Ford Fiesta have adopted the same spare-wheel design. Ford admits that, in the

early days, it was surprised how many went missing. Who buys these stolen spares? Unscrupulous wheel(er) dealers and, presumably, some owners who've already been dispossessed and are looking out for cheap replacements. Security has improved

wsd

since the early days. The wire cages are stronger and have locks: usually you need to turn a catch inside the boot to free the cage and thus the wheel. Nonetheless, any thief with a strong pair of wire cutters or a good hacksaw will not be deterred.

The other problem with this set-up is the difficult access to the spare. A woman I know arrived late for work last week after getting a flat in ber new

"Don't car makers ever think about women," she fumed. "Try bending down so low to get to the spare tyre when you're wearing a tight skirt." I said I'd pass on that challenge but believed her.

Coincidentally, my wife's Renault Clio had a flat soon after. You certainly do need to be flexible of limb and quite strong to squat down under the back of the car to remove the heavy spare from its cage. I rang Ford, who

pointed out that flat tyres are rare. (The Tyre Industry Council reckons a puncture happens on average once every nine vears.) "We'd rather give extra boot space," said the Ford spokesman. "That's more important than making an unusual task, such as spare-tyre changing, easier." On all Ford models which are which cabin space is not at such a premium, spare wheels are still kept in the

boot area. Improvements in the strength and durability of tyres mean that punctures are less and less likely to inconvenience us. Probably all we'll need in the future to get us on our way after a flat tyre is a canister of repair spray. It would automatically reflate a flat tyre and seal any holes or small cuts, at least until you got to a garage.

A new tyre would then have to be fitted. A few makers, including Ferrari, already offer just such a solution. The mass makers should follow in about five

So what's the answer to the great spare tyre dilemma? It's simple: there

Mitsubishi Carisma

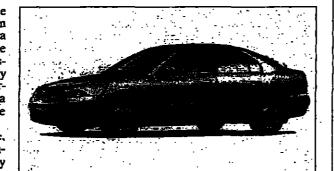
T his car looks the most tempting of packages. Not only is it a five-seater family hatchback with lots of equipment, low running costs, a bargain price and a three-year warranty, it's a new design from one of Japan's leading car makers. The difference is that the Mitsubishi Carisma is built in Europe - Holland, in fact in a joint venture with Volvo.

Being EC-built with European sourcing of everything except the engines and the optional automatic gearboxes, the Carisma escapes import duty and quota restrictions. This is why it is cheap (cheaper than a Ford Mondeo or a Vauxhall Vec-Ira), and why Mitsubishi is gearing up for 100,000 sales a year across Europe. Its designers claim the Carisma to be the first Japanese car to be developed specifically for Europeans, but they re wrong that accolade goes to the current, UK-built Honda

Trouble is, the Carisma doesn't feel quite as European as they think. The styling is less anodyne than that of a Toyota Carina or a Nissan Primera (two more UK-built Japanese transplants), but it is hardly heaped with the sort of personality that would make a weekend car-wash a prime piece of quality time. Things improve inside,

with an ovoid console forming the centrepiece of a tidy dashboard, but the effect is spoilt by the unremittingly grey, and poorly finished. part of the Dutch-built Volvo legacy (400-series) that Mitsubishi would have done better not to inherit. More of a problem is the lack of head and foot space for rear passengers, whose lounging room is sacrificed to a huge boot.

Two 16-valve engines combine with three trim levels - is numb and the Carisma is GL GLX and GLS - to reductant to string together a make up the Carisma range. series of bends with any flu-Prices start at £10,999 for the idity. It would rather go 1.6 GL and peak at £15,349 straight on, given the chance. for the 1.8 GLS automatic with Diamond Option Pack.



The GLS also comes with a Specifications plastics elsewhere. This is a Philips Routefinder, a computerised road atlas which sits atop the facia. Yet however fine the cross-country. routes that the Routefinder devises, you will probably be disappointed by the Carisma's wholly unexceptional drive qualities. It rides smoothly, if squeichily over big bumps, but the steering

Mitsubishi Carisma 1.8 GLS, £13,499 Engine: 1834cc, four cylinders, 114bhp at 5,500 rpm. Five-speed gearbox, front-wheel drive. Top speed 125mph, 0-60 in 10.2 seconds. Fuel consumption

Rivals Citroen Xantia 1.8 SX 16V GLX, £14,465, Peugeot 406 1.8 LX £13.695, Renault Laguna 1.8 RT, £12,670 Vauxhall Vectra 1.8 GLS John Simister £14,780

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idea that prices must

rise year in, year out

s inflation really dead, or simply moribund? It is hard From their peak in the to think of an issue that has greater implications for any-Napoleonic Wars to one planning their future investment strategy. For at least a generation, the way we save and spend has been the 1890s, prices fell dominated by the need to allow for the impact of persistently rising continuously. It is only prices. It has been the age when "real assets", those that appreciate by more than the rate of inflation in the second half of each year, have commanded an enduring premium.

Chief among these, for most investors, have been shares, the 20th century that property and index-linked gilts. All three types of asset have conwe have become sistently produced positive real returns over time. accustomed to the

Everyone knows that inflation has been falling. The current level of the Retail Price Index, rising by around three per cent, depending which of the several measures you look at, is its lowest for well over 25 years. At its peak in the late 1970s, the UK inflation rate topped 25 per cent. This, too, is a global, not just a British, phenomenon. All the leading industri- the absence of war (which is always



JONATHAN DAVIS
INVESTMENTS

tion rates that are well down on their peaks around 15 years ago. In Japan, inflation has effectively fallen below zero.

But can it last? And what are the implications for investors? These are the questions raised by the wellknown City economist Roger Bootle in a new book out this month. As its title, The Death of Inflation, implies. Bootle himself has few doubts. His argument is that the inflationary experience of the last 30 years is a historical aberration which is now drawing to a close. In alised economies now have infla- inflationary), or another shock like

sees no reason to expect inflation to rear its head again in the fore-

In fact, the main worry now, he says, is that we may be in danger of tipping over into deflation, as the world's central banks - still obsessed with the bogeys of the past - compete to squeeze the last drop of inflation out of the system with unnecessarily tight monetary polices. Bootle points out that in the 19th century, when Britain dominated the world economy,

nobody expected prices to rise. In fact, from their peak in the Napoleonic Wars to the 1890s, prices actually fell continuously. It is only in the second half of the 20th century that we have become accustomed to the idea that prices must rise year in, year out. What Bootle thinks will now happen is that we will return to a period of what he calls "bounded price instability". While prices may fluc-tuate quite sharply from year to year, as they used to do in the past, on average there will be next to no

this is that interest rates, too, will economy - the spread of informa- annuities.

the oil price-hikes of the 1970s, he continue to fall from their current levels. It is hard now to remember that as recently as 1951, base rates stood at just two per cent, or that 2.5 per cent Consols (gilts) were once considered good value. Yet historically, long-term interest rates above five per cent are even more of an aberration than infla-

Is Bootle right? Needless to say,

tion above the same level.

not everyone agrees with his diagnosis. Prices in the financial markets imply that most investors are still expecting some - admit-tedly modest - rise in inflation in the next two to three years. Many professionals are worried with good cause, about the prospect of an artificially generated preelection boom. Britain's two leading monetarist economists are even now squabbling over whether the recent growth in the money supply points to a new inflationary surge

My impression, however, is that the smart money is increasingly coming round to Bootle's way of thinking. His argument that inflation is being held down by power-The inevitable consequence of ful structural changes in the world

tion technology, increasingly open and competitive markets, and the declining power of organised labour - is well argued and per-sussive. Barring accidents, there are good reasons for thinking that the surprises on inflation, when they come, will be on the downside,

not the upside. If Bootle is right, and inflation is actually licked, not tamed, what follows for investors? His own

check list includes the following: *Avoid taking on unnecessary debt. Inflation is the great friend of borrowers, since the real value of what you borrow can be eroded very quickly. By contrast, if infla-tion is going to be permanently low, the burden of debt will be much more onerous - and much harder to shift.

*House prices may still grow modestly in real terms, but the great British game of building capital from housing - using depreciating debt to finance a rapidly appreciating asset - is over. Avoid fixed-rate mortgages "like the plague" as interest rates are set to fall further. The fixed rates to look for are on savings and

*Long-term government bonds become much more attractive investments in a low-inflation environment. Real yields are sill high in historical terms, but stick to countries which are not crippled

with high debt levels. *Shares will continue to do well in real terms, but don't expect a repeat of the huge capital gains in money terms we have seen in recent years. By the same token, don't expect pensions and other long- term saving policies (endowments, for example) to produce such high annual returns as they do

Bootle suggests that what investors need most of all, however, is a new mindset. A return of five per cent per annum on your savings leaves you no better off when inflation is at or above the same level (in fact, worse off after tax). If inflation is at zero, however, you are being offered what is historically a very high real return indeed. It is time to start thinking that way.

The Death of Inflation, by Roger Bootle, is published by Nicholas Brealey Publishing. £16.99.

The careful way to happy driving

Nigel Richardson looks at the ever-increasing value of hanging on to your no-claims bonus

any motor insurover the next few to put a squeeze on the profinsurers, including Direct Line, the original telephone-

So it is an appropriate time was introduced as a renewal ance premiums for motorists to be reminded incentive. Some insurers are likely to rise of the value of their no claims started to reward policybonus. The bonus has holders who had not claimed months, bringing evolved into a key rating fac-with a 10 per cent discount to an end the tor. With discounts as high as off their renewal premiums. downward trend of the last 65 per cent or more, the It remained in place prothree years which has begun effect on the premium to be vided the risk remained paid can come as quite a claim-free but would be lost its of even most competitive shock to those who lose their following a claim, irrespective entitlement or are buying their first insurance.

of the cost or the length of time the client had been

also lost if the client trans- not only higher discounts but fered to another insurer.

It was not long, however, before some insurers began to realise the marketing value of the discount in attracting careful drivers, and began to tempt new clients by allowing them to keep a bonus they had earned with their existing insurer. Other insurers, particularly the Lloyd's motor Originally, the discount claim-free. The discount was syndicates, began offering

a scale depending on the length of claim-free driving. Other developments followed, usually as a result of market pressures, until the late Sixties saw discounts rise to present levels. Basic rates had to rise to

compensate for the increased discount, and went up to such a level that it become ing insurance for the first unfair for experienced drivers for the first time. Hence the duced, a discount restricted to first-time policyholders over 25 provided they had claim-free driving experience

under a full licence.

Clients began to express

their discontent when they discovered, following a claim, just how valuable the discount had become. The loss of a full bonus could result in a 150 per cent increase in their premium, an increase that could well exceed the amount of the claim. So the step-back bonus was introduced under which NCB would only be reduced by two years on the scale following a claim. Next came the protected NCB for those with a full discount. In return for a small additional annual premium or an agreement to an excess or a combination of both, insurers would not reduce the bonus provided their client did not make frequent claims, (generally no more than two claims in a

five-year period.) The bonus has probably gone as far as it can - some would say too far. The result is that most motorists now enjoy a maximum discount, and basic rates have had to take this into account. If rates increase by 10 per cent in the next 12 months - which is quite possible - a motorist currently paying a premium of £300 would be facing a renewal premium of £825 next year if he lost his full bonus entitlement.

The bonus needs to be treated with respect, and steps should be taken to try and avoid its loss. Bonus protection options are widely available for a small additional premium but generally you must already be entitled to a full bonus entitlement. Do not, however, then be tempted to make small claims, as by doing so you very expensive for those seek- could use up your entitlement to make two claims in time. It was particularly five years before you need to make a large claim, in which

seeking their own insurance case your bonus will be lost. Prudent drivers should introductory NCB was intro- remember to purchase only a policy that "step backs" the bonus in the event of a claim, so that only two years is lost This is important even with a bonus protection. Check as well to make certain your policy does not reduce the bonus

for broken windscreen Remember, bonuses are easily transferable at renewal. You need merely send your new insurer the old insurer's renewal notice. However should you cancel a policy, ask the insurer to provide you with confirmation of your bonus entitlement, which a new insurer will usually accept if insurance is taken out again within two years.

If you lose entitlement to a company car, ask your employer to provide a letter confirming your own claim-free history, as this will enable a discount to be secured on a policy in your own name. Do not be tempted to accept a quote purely because it offers a higher level of bonus than another; the lower bonus policy could still be a more competitive policy offering wider cover and a superior claims service.

One final point: although the bonus entitlement is a personal matter, it is earned by the policyholder. Be careful who you allow to drive your car - they could lose the bonus for you.

Nigel Richardson is Motor Schemes Manager at the RAC.



Avoid small claims, as the entitlement to make two in five years could be lost before you need to make a large claim

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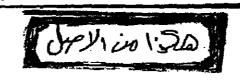
LOOSE CHANGE

oyal Bank of Scotland is inviting people to open a new "Royalties" account, offering a package of dis-counts including automatic accidental death insurance, a one per cent bonus on investment and pension schemes, and five per cent off travel services. The package costs £4 a month, and the discounts could be worth £15 a month.

Turkey farmer Bernard Matthews almost made the top 10 most popular share purchased through Fidelity brokerage last month, driving the shares up more than 200. Hillsdown was also in demand, while Tesco and Sainsbury suffered from the

BSE scare. Glaxo Wellcome BT, British Gas, Hanson, plus Abbey National, Lloyds TSB and National Grid featured in both buys and sells, GEC and Shell were buys and BAA and BP sells.

Interest rates on three- and four-year bonds continue to rise. London & Edinburgh offers 5.83 per cent net for three years on sums between £3,000 and £10,000, Premium Life offers 5.3 per cent on £1,000 to £5,000 over four years, while Pinnacle Assurance is still offering 6.85 per cent for five years on sums from £3,000 to £5,000. Call 100 and ask for Freephone Bondline.



Operation Mystery Shopper set to expose the great travel cover scam

By Rachel Gordon



to check the small print when buying holiday cover through your travel agent can lead to a right carry-on

aster is here and many of us are looking forward to a first break of the year. And with a cold snap still in the air, that holiday abroad seems all the more tempting. But even on a short stay, things can go wrong. Falling ill, losing your luggage or the car breaking down are all unpleasant, if unlikely, possibilities. So taking out travel insurance seems like common

But many people, particularly if only going away for a short stay, are reluctant to bother. After all, insurance is a grudge purchase at the best of times. And for a few days away at Easter, is it really worth the effort? Not surprisingly the insurers and travel agents say yes, it most certainly is.

Julie Philpott, marketing director at insurer, Columbus says: "Whether you're planning a weekend on the French Riviera or shopping in New York, insurance should be high on the list of priorities. And it's worth remembering that 80 per cent of the claims we receive at Columbus relate to all kinds of claims which could happen anywhere." She adds that a weekend away in Europe can be covered by a policy costing from £6.95.

But for many travel agents, seming insurance means rich pickings. Some agents offering "bargain" holidays make choose what parts of a policy you need, and save money by avoiding those you ing extortionate insurance premiums. But the hard-sell staff often fail to point out that cover may not be tied into the holiday, or that the buyer can shop around. No wonder travel insurance sold by agents now has a bad name.

miums is now in the consumer spotlight following recent investigations by the Office of Fair Trading and the Consumers Association. The CA in particular urges consumers to check small print

to see if cover is adequate. And the Association of British Insurers (ABI) is presently trying to crack the scam by running a "mystery shopper" operation. While results are expected in June, it has already found that some agents had limited knowledge of policy wordings or did not even have a copy of the policy document.

Not surprisingly, the CA recommends buying a separate, stand-alone policy. It explains that travel agents will normally accept these but will want to see it before the holiday is booked.

While there will always be some who for convenience will buy their insurance through a travel agent, Paul Monks, managing director of insurer and assistance company, Europ Assistance, says a growing number are becoming increasingly aware of their insurance needs. "Many people have seen through the spoof of travel agents' cover and realise it is not good value," he said.

It is this attitude which has led to Europ

For example, Monks points out many people already have baggage cover under their home contents insurance. Health costs might be covered under a private medical insurance policy. And if you Fortunately, the scam of hiking up pre- book your Easter break the day before abroad raises the thorny issue of Green

you are due to leave, cancellation cover hardly seems necessary.

Now is also a good time to consider multi-trip or annual cover. For frequent travellers. Monks says this can be good value and he has seen a 20 per cent growth in the area over the last six months. This is based on a yearly fee, regardless of the number of trips you make. Sarah Joannides, marketing manager of insurer Home & Overseas, says many people can afford to take two holidays a year plus weekend breaks. With policies sold through many banks and building societies, an annual policy, she says, can cost around £120 and can be upgraded to

cover riskier activities such as skiing. Winter sports may be over, but some may be planning equally risky activities this Easter. Insurance for these is available and P J Hayman, for example, provides a specialist policy, "Adventures". This covers most activities from diving, to learning to fly to rock climbing or bungee jumping. For most unusual needs, the brokers' trade body, BIIBA, can also recommend an experienced insurance adviser.

For more leisurely holidays, it is still worth travellers being prepared for the worst disaster. Not the least requirement is obtaining an E111 form, which is a reciprocal arrangement aimed at Britons on holiday in the EU. This is available from the Post Office. But it is worth remembering that this only covers emergency treatment, and does not include repatri-

And even a few days spent motoring is not without its risks. Taking your car

Cards. This is a document used as proof that a driver's minimum legal requirements are covered by their motor insurance policy. While there is no direct charge, an insurer or broker will often make an administrative charge, and it can also mean a wait for it to be sent out to the policyholder.

Tony Baker, deputy director general of the ABL states that all motor policies sold in the UK provide the minimum cover required by law in EU states. Policies also extend to the Czech and Slovak Republics, Hungary, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland. But Green Cards are recognised documents in many countries - often more so than a UK insurance policy - and so might prevent misunderstandings when abroad. And Baker advises that minimum cover may not include fire, theft or damage to the policyholder's own car. This means a policy extension needs to be bought, and the insurer should be contacted to arrange improved cover. The ABI has produced an information sheet. "Taking Your Car Abroad - "The Insurance Facts", which explains Green Cards in detail,

Perhaps the best bet is to make sure your car is in good order before you travel. Combill Insurance reports that calls to its offices are 25 per cent higher on the Tuesday after Easter than normal.

> Columbus - 0171 422 5505 Europ Assistance - 0181 680 1234 Home & Overseas - 0171 434 3002 ABI - 0171 600 3333 P J Hayman - 01730 260222 BIIBA - to recommend an independent

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Treasured Easter gift from the monarch

By John Andrew

nly hours after the Cabinet proposed a referendum in the case of Parliament agreeing to replace pounds with euros, the Queen was at Norwich Cathedral, giving away bags containing Maundy money - 70 pence in silver coins to 70 men and 70 women, one for each year of the Queen's age.

A set comprises a groat, or fourpenny piece, a threepence, twopence and a penny. The latter is about the size of a shirt button. The nominal value of each set is 10 pence, so each of the men and women this year received seven complete sets. They were handed to the recipients in white leather bags. Officials at the ceremony were also given Maundy coins.

Nevertheless, only about 1,600 complete sets will have been struck this year. This is a small mintage when compared to even a limited edition of a collectors coin.

The majority of the coins presented to the men and because of their outstanding service to the Church and the community, will be cherished and treated as treasured heir-

Spink, the London coin dealers, expect that 1996 sets will retail for around £90. However, by next year their price is likely to have dropped to £50 as the demand from collectors seeking the latest issue has been satisfied.

Rasmussen, earlier Maundy money is as rare as hens' teeth in choice condition. The four denominations of the same John Andrew is the Consultant date in mint state would cost up was perfectly matched. If in "fine" condition, which actually means having considerable wear, the price would be about-

However, a near mint state late Victorian example would sell for around £40, because it had become the practice for the general public to be allowed to purchase sets through banks. In 1909, Edward VII commanded that this should cease as it reduced the value of coins to recipients. The effect was dramatic. In 1908 18,150 silver pennies were struck; the following year the number was

From the reign of George V, the number of complete sets struck has never exceeded 2,000. Despite these low mintages, sets from 1911 generally sell for around £40 to £50. The exception is the 1953 set, which is keenly sought: it was the Coronation year and the portrait of the Queen differs from that of subsequent

Given that both the number of recipients and the number of. coins given to each recipient increases with the monarch's age, one would expect earlier examples of the current reign women, who were chosen to be worth more than later ones. However this overlooks both the number of sets given to officials each year and the make-up of the coins given to each recipient. In 1966, 1,206 As the coins are scarce in the complete sets were struck while market, one would expect the sets to sell at high prices. was only 986. Interestingly, Seaby's Standard Catalogue lists both dates at £50.

Any market where the material is scarce can be quickly distorted if there is a surge in demand. Any collectable which rapidly increases in price is sure to fall at a later date. How-According to Spink's Mark ever, at current levels, the modern sets certainly have investment potential.

Editor of Coin News (price £2). to £500 if their toning (colour), Readers of the Independent may obtain a free copy by sending stamps to the value of 42p, together with their address, to: Token Publishing, PO Box 14, Honiton, Devon EX14 9YP.

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FEAR OF FINANCE **Clifford German**



accounts which qualify for voting membership of medium-sized building societies started party of takeover bidders to subside three months ambush it first. ago after the newly appointed group chief executive of the Woolwich, Peter Robinson, who so spectacularly came to grief this week, arbitrarily date if a rush starts to open excluded recently opened new accounts today. accounts from voting mem-

most popular accounts to new investors and forced them to open non-qualifying accounts which do not benefit from conversions.

The Nationwide, the Britannia, Bradford & Bingley and the Coventry actively sought to make themselves less attractive mortgage rates, raising savings rates and reducing status. profit margins in moves appealing to predators.

admitting that becoming a on who goes next. bank was one of the Ironically, if there is a options it is considering, a new rush to tie up £1,000 statement which effectively here and £1,000 there it is means that pass has also

Now it is simply a matter of seeing whether the been setting aside for the wagon-train gets across the Railtrack and British plain to the safety of a Energy flotations.

The rush to open successful float, which guarantees five years of survival as an independent body, or whether a war-

It is too late to open a qualifying account with Northern Rock, and Bristol & West could impose a retrospective qualifying

Pressure is now likely to build on the Nationwide, At the same time most which is clearly big enough societies sharply raised the to convert alone. If Northamount of money needed ern Rock can float alone so to open a qualifying could the Bradford & Binaccount or simply shut the gley and Britannia, and maybe even the Birming-ham & Midshires and the Yorkshire.

Even more likely is a round of mergers, which bring few immediate benefits to members, in the hope of forestalling takeovers, which can be as lucrative to members sellto speculators by cutting ingout their independence as converting to banking

The days of making the designed to re-affirm a best part of £1,000 worth of commitment to mutual sta- shares or cash incentives tus and make the business on a strategic investment less profitable and less of as little as £100 are gone. In most places it is Together they did seem now necessary to put more to have stifled the specu- into an account than it is lation. All that has now likely to yield, and in many been revived after North- cases it will be necessary to ern Rock announced its wait for as long as 18 board has collectively months before a windfall is changed its mind and is paid out. But returns of 60-now actively considering a 70 per cent over 12-18 float. Within hours the months could still be Bristol & West was also obtained for a lucky guess

likely to have a direct and many small investors have

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A classic case of off-road obstacles

Corinne Simcock hears a tale of costly indulgence from the man who leads Daewoo's advertising campaign

Charlie Dawson, 29, is a board account director with the advertising agency Duckworth, Finn, Grubb, Waters, which has 50 employees and £50m billing. He joined the industry in 1989 as a Saatchi & Saatchi graduate recruit after leaving Cambridge with a First in manufacturing engineering. Today he heads up the Daewoo

n 1989 I was left some money. I put part of it into buying a flat and decided to indulge myself by buying a classic car. A friend of a friend was a car dealer who had a 1973 Jensen-Healey going for £6,000, so I went to have a look. It was a black twoseater convertible that looked a bit ugly and I fell in love with it immediately.

Instead of spending a couple of hundred pounds on an official inspection, I got a mechanic who had worked on my previous car to have a look. Unfortunately it was dark by the time he arrived and none of us had a torch, but he felt around a bit and spotted a couple of faults, so I made it a condition of sale that the dealer got them fixed.

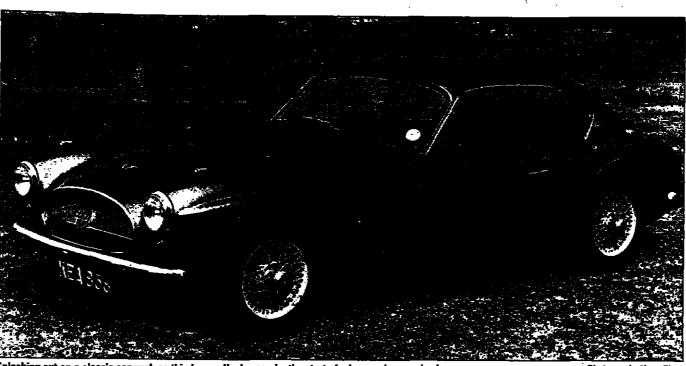
It also needed a respray, and because I trusted the guy, I said that if he came across anything else that needed doing he should go ahead and stick it on the bill. I ended up paying £6,500. Three months later I noticed that the whole car had started twitching when I changed gear. I spotted a huge bit of metal hanging off between the wheels, so I had the car towed to a specialist garage.

By the time I got to my office, the garage had already phoned to ask how quickly I could return. When I got there, the car was up on a ramp and they showed me the underneath. The suspension was attached to the body with

big lumps of glass fibre, not by bolts.
It looked like someone had deliberately tried to conceal what they had done. In the mechanics' opinion the car was potentially lethal and should never have passed an MOT The whole floor would need to be replaced before it could be driven again.

Feeling a court case coming on, I paid the RAC £200 to come and have a look. The inspector said it was one of the worst cases out later that VAT was not included, and it Feeling a court case coming on, I paid the he had ever seen and suggested that I sue.

garage which has issued an MOT within a was going to be able to drive it again. Unfor-



month of the inspection. By then I had had the car for more than three months. We continued to try to sue the dealer, a process which lasted for more than a year. Eventually, though, I was told that since I had had a mechanic inspect the car before I bought it, my chances of winning were only 50/50.

I could have sued the mechanic instead, but he was self-employed and he had done a lot of work for me over the years. That was another lesson: you should only pay for the

services of people you are prepared to sue.

Given that I had had no luck so far, I decided to spend the money that remained on the car and not the legal system. The speended up costing £5,500.

It turned out that you can only sue the . At last, 18 months after buying the car, I

tunately, just as I went to collect it they noticed a problem with the engine, and it needed to be completely rebuilt. By now I was a touch distraught. I had spent £12,000 on this car; I coudn't throw it away to save £4,000. It had long ceased to be an investment, but at least if I got it fixed I could drive it.

It took more than a year for the engine to be rebuilt, and the bill came to more than £6,000. Unbelievably, even after I picked it up I discovered faults elsewhere. Fortunately, I found a specialist mechanic near Doncaster who was absolutely brilliant. Unfortunately, I live in London. The car needed to be serviced every 3,000 miles, so I took to driving half-way up the A1 at frequent intervals. By the spring of 1995 I had spent a total of £22,000 and driven about 15,000 miles. It would have been cheaper to have been driven around in a taxi for five years.

done if I was to hang on to the car for the rest of my life, but my long-suffering partner and I had decided to have a baby and it just wasn't practical. I managed to find a buyer who agreed to pay £5,500, but he wanted an inspection first. I wasn't too worried because virtually every part had been replaced by now.

But I had forgotten the respray that had

been carried out by the dealer who sold it to me - and it was hiding a multitude of sins. The buyer reduced his offer. When I finally sold it to him for £3,500, I had lost around £8,500, and I was deliriously happy because at last I couldn't lose any more.

A classic car is a high-risk non-investment if you're determined to drive it; lots can go wrong and running costs are high. I had hoped it would rise in value at a little over the inflation rate. My intention was to protect my capital, a bit like leaving it in a building society. Financially, I could only justify what I had Instead, it cost me all the money I'd been left.

Trusts look for Eastern promise

By Clifford German

the current list of new investment trust offers reviewed by Nigel Side-bottom at GVG Asset Management. Fidelity Asian Values is managed by K C Lee, who also runs their existing South-east Asia unit trust. The fund will invest in the Far East excluding Japan, the plac-ing and public offer includes one free warrant with every five shares. Investors looking for a

recovery in Japan should consider Gartmore's Select Japanese Investment Trust, managed by Mark Fawcett who runs the existing unit trust, which is a risk-averse fund. Atlantis Japan Growth Fund managed by former Schroder fund manager Ed Memer is dollar-denominated and Guernseybased, and London-listed. It will invest in small and medium companies and aim for capital growth.

Renaissance Growth and Income Trust will invest mainly in companies with a market capitalisation of under \$100m. The issue is through a placing with institutions only and several similar trusts already stand at sig-nificant discounts to net

asset value. A number of investment trusts in the UK smaller companies sector are issuing "C" shares.
The highly successful
Invesco English & International Trust is making a public offer of

sian issues dominate shares, but there are no warrants, and small existing shares a cheaper way in as they stand at a small discount to net asset value. Montanaro Smaller Companies is raising up to £30m in shares plus warrants through a placing

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The high-performing
Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust is making an offer for subscription of "C" shares available. There is only a 97 per cent conversion factor available but the inclusion of warrants available on conversion should largely offset this, say GVG.

Carnegie Building Societies Investment Trust aims to invest mainly in irredeemable high-interest bearing Permanent Interest Bearing Shares (PIBS) issued by mutual building societies, with the balance in debt securities and cash. The trust hopes to benefit from the trend to conversion and commercialisation of building societies, including the Woolwich and National & Provincial.

TR Pacific Investment Trust is offering shares to holders of Thornton Asian Emerging excluding the investment in China Vest II for which a separate offer is being made. Accepting shareholders will pay a premium of 3 per cent to the net asset value of TR Pacific. A cash alternative of 96 per cent of Thornton's net asset value is

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laxman ready to reward efficiency

By Clifford German

discounts to taxpayers who fill their forms in promptly and pay their tax demands on time to help the Inland Revenue smooth out the peaks and troughs of work once self-assessment is up and running next year. Don't hold your breath, but without some form of incentive the slimmeddown staff could otherwise face a massive burden of work concentrated on and after the two new yearly deadlines at the end of September and

New-style requiring more detailed information go out in April next year to the 9 million people who currently receive an annual return. Self-assessment is something of a misnomer because all taxpayers who want their tax office to continue to calculate the actual tax due on the basis of the information supplied, are free to do so and wait for their assessments in the normal way, although they will have to submit their completed returns for the year ending in April by 30 September. They will then receive tax bills, which should be paid by the end of January.

Anyone who is willing to go all the way and calculate his or her own tax liability can send in the forms, together with a cheque for what they think they owe before the end of January. Late ter also suggest that while returns are liable to be 10 per cent of those who penalised by a fine.

with 5,000 in Leicester ment might force them last year, and a further to do so in future, a demmy run is due this year with 17,000 volunteers in Southampton accountants now said and Leicester. Last year's results show that 94 per forms and the accompacent of the Leicester volinteers gave enough information for their affairs to be processed without further enquines. had filed by the end of trate accountants' minds.

he taxman might offer September, and another 30 per cent by the end of January, only slightly more than currently meet the deadline for first instalments. It still means one in five of the volunteers who took part in trials last year in Leicester failed to get their forms back on time. Excuses ranged from the usual "still waiting for some vital information", to confusion over the dates.

The Inland Revenue's acting director Clive Corlett points out that 35 per cent of all taxpayers fail to meet the existing dead-line, so the trial shows an improving trend. There are also no penalties to spur the volunteers. Publicity and penalties could concentrate minds further when self assessment begins in earnest next year. The Inland Revenne is planning local Tax Weeks to publicise self-assessment and make taxpayers more aware of the helplines which will

be available. But there is also the ongoing problem of the hard core of 10 per cent of taxpayers who never return their forms and have to be pursued at great expense by the taxman. By definition none of them will have volunteered for the Leicester test, and if they are included the sample figures might look significantly worse.

Meanwhile, however.

the results from Leicesdo not employ accoun-A trial run took place tants said that self-assessremarkable 25 per cent of those who do use they thought the new nying instructions had so successfully de-mystified the tax return that they could dispense with professional help in future. But only 49 per cent That is likely to concen-

with easy access? "You can

get it with the Woolwich."

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£10,000 - £24,999	4.00%
£500 - £9,999	3.25%

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†Gross rates for monthly income. £500+ 3.20%, £10,000+ 3.93%, £25,000+ 4.41%, £50,000+ 4.89%, £100,000+ 5.13%.

Balances below 5500 carn interest at 0.75% gross. "Interest will be payable not of the lower rate of income tax (currently 20%), or subject to the required certification, gross. Where the tax deducted exceeds an investor's tax liability (if any), a claim may be made to the inlied Revenue for repayment of tax. For individuals whose income falls within the lower or basic tax bands, the tax deducted will match their liability to tax on the interest and they will have no more tax to pay on a lindwiduals who are flable at the higher rate of income tax of 40% will have to pay additional tax on the interest to cover the difference between the tax deducted and the higher rate tax doc. Interest will be calculated daily, from the day of receipt in the case of a deposit of cash and from the fourth bank working day after receipt in the case of a deposit of proof of identity may be required. Withdrawals may be made without penalty by giving 30 clear days written notice or immediately subject to the loss of 30 days interest. All withdrawals subject to normal branch daily limits of £250 in cash and £100.0000 by cheque. Full terms and conditions writible on request from any Woolwich branch.

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Television

Arts and entertainment listings

WEST END OLLO 13 (PG) Thus story of the 1970 rollo 13 mission. Plaza 5.30 PABE (U) A pig attempts to swid being a Sunday roast. Threaders MGM 11.50am, 2.05 (Satt. 2.10 (Sun); Plaza 2.15, 4.20, 6.25, 8.35 BAITO (U) Animated adventures of a sled-dog, Trocadero MGM 12.05; Warner West

dog. Trocasaro . Eng. 12.15, 2.00 BRAVENEART (15) Mel Gibson directs and stars. Odeon West End 1235, 4.10, 7.45.

CASRIO (18) A professional gambler takes over a Las Vegas casino. Trocadero MGM Sat 4.06, 7.40, 11.20; Sun 4.10, 8.10; Plaza 12.30, 4,15, 8,00 LA CENEMONIE UNDGENERT IN STONE (15) Ruth Rendell thriller. Panton St MGM 1.25. 3.50, 6.15, 8.40; MGM Swiss Centre 1.30, 3.50, 6.15, 8.40

CUTTHROAT ISLAND (PG) Geena Davis ars. Trocadero MGM 1250, 3,41, 6,30, tuner West End 1.10, 3.50, 6,31, 9,10 CYCLO (18) Vietnamese tale about bicycle-drawn taxis. MGM Swiss Centre 12.50, 3.20,

DEAD MAR WILLKING (15) Susan Saraso DEAD MAR WHILING (15) Susan Sarandon as a run who befriends a man on death row. Barbicon Cinema 6.15, 8.40; Gate Nating Hill 1.10 (Satt, 3.40, 6.10, 8.45, 11.15 (Sart, Sudjectury Ave MGM 2.10, 5.25, 8.25, 11.10 (Sat); Renoir 105, 3.30, 6.10, 8.55; Warner test End 1230, 3.10, 6.00, 8.50, 11.30

DEVIL IN A BLUE ORESS (15) Denzel Washington stars, Panton St MGM 1.25, 3.55, 6.25, 8.45 DUNSTON CHECKS IN (PG) An orangutan wreaks havec in a hotel. Odeon West End 1.15, 3.20 FRENCH TWIST (CAZON MAUDIT) (18)

French farce. Piccadilly MGM 130, 3.45. 6.10, 8.30; Odeon Messanine 12.50 (Sat). FRENCH TWIST (ENGLISH LANGINGE VER-

\$200 (18) See above. Piccadilly MGM 130, 3.45, 6.10, 8.30 3.45, 6.10, 8.30 GET \$500ETY (15) John Travolta stars. Emper Leicester Square 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45, 11.30 (Sax); Trocadero MGM 12.45, 3.45, 6.40, 9.10, 1 Zmidnight (Sat)

COLDENE VE (12) The latest James Bond yurn. Odeon Mexamine 12.10 (Sat), 2.55, HEAT (15) Cop/psychopath thriller. Tro-cadero MGM 4,40, 8,20; Warner West End 1,00, 4,40, 8,20, 10,40, 11,50

EFFREY (18) Romantic comedy. Shafes-bay Ave MGM 2.45, 5.50, 8.50 RMANU (PG) Robin Williams becomes trapped in a real-life board-game. Trocadero MGM 12:30, 2:40, 5:10; Odeon High St Ken 1.30; Swiss Cottage Odern 1.15, 3.45; Warner West End 3.50, 6.00, 8.20

I September 1998 (12) Sequel to the virtual reality speciacular. Acton Warner 7.10; Odeon West End 6.30, 8.50 LEARNING LAS VEGAS (18) Street-level view of Las Vegas. MGM Swiss Centre 1.40, 4.00, 6.25, 8.50; Warner West End 12.55, 3.15, 5.50.

A LITTLE PRINCESS (U) Adaptation of the Frances Hodgson Burnett children's story. Trocadero MGM 12:10, 2:20; Warner West

Fed 1210, 215 NABNA (15) Black-and-white arthouse depiction of vampires in New York. Tou Ci Rd MGM 200, 4.55, 7.10, 9.30 MCM 230, 4-55, 7.11, 9-20
MEMON (15) Anthony Hopkins stars. Tro-cadero MGM 7.55; Odecor Haymarket Sat 12.45, 4.35, 8-45; Sun 1.45, 7.25; Warner West End 4-20, 8-10
MORTH BY MORTHWEST (PG) Hitchcock's

chaste, Lumiere 2.35, 5.25, 8.20 GRELLO (12) Hollywood production of Shakespeare's play. Odeon Measuring 12.25 (Sat), 3.00, 5.45, 8.30 1. POSTINO (15) Lyrical, roma

E. FOSTITUS (27) LYTERA, TOMARINE LIMITAT Film. Gate Nonting Hill Sun 1.33, Parton Si MGM 1.20, 3.45, 6.10, 8.40, MGM Sixts Centre 1.35, 4.05, 6.30, 8.50, The Minema 3.00, 6.30, 8.45

3.30, 6.30, 8.45

BESTIDEATION (15) Robert Downey Ir is a physician in the Court of King Charles II.

Oldon Meccanine 1.05 (Sat), 3.40, 6.15, 8.45

SENSE AND SENSIBLITY (1) Emma Sense and Sensimen (10) Emma Thompson's adaptation of Jane Austen. Chebra Cinema 230, 520, 8.15; Curson Mayfair 200, 500, 8.00; Curson West End

REFINIT RELIED (PG) Shave Martin in the e made famous by Phil Silvers. Empire icester Square 1.30, 3.50, 6.15, 6.45; Tro-tero MGM 2.30, 4.50, 7.10, 9.30 SEVEN (18) A series of murders stump homicide detectives. Empire Leicester Sq. 12.45, 3.20, 5.55, 8.30, 11.30 (Sat); Odeon Meccanine 12.20 (Sat), 3.00, 5.45, 8.30 SMALL FINCES (15) A boy growing up in 1960s Glasgow becomes embroiled in gang-land. Haymarket MCM 1.10, 3.40, 6.10, 8.40; Tott Ci Rd MGM 1.45, 4.15, 6.55, 9.30; Warner West End 1.40, 4.10, 6.40, 9.00, 11.30 STOLEN BEARTS (15) Two low-lifes aspire to symething better. *Docardero MGM* 12.20, 2.30, 4.40, 6.55, 9.20; Warner West End 12.20, 2.30, 5.00, 7.20, 9.30, 11.50

STEAMSE DATS (18) Cyberpank thriller. Trocadero MGM Sat 12midnight; Plaza 8.20 no MGM Set Lemmany

NG WITH SRANGS (15) A put-upon

thon assistant gots his revenge with

Homorka MGM is dictatorial durector. *Haymarke MGM* ,40, 4.00, 6.20, 8.45; *Tott Ct Rd MGM* 2.05,

NUMBER COLOURS BLIE (15) Part of the triology by the director of The Double Life of Verminus and Debalog, Curson Phoenix 205 (Sat), 4.15, 6.25, 8.35

(Su), 4.15, 6.25, 8.35 TOV STORY, (PC) Computer-animated emissional Barbican Cinema 2.00 (not Sat), 2.30 (Sat), 4.00, 6.15, 8.30; Odeon Leic Sq. 12.40, 3.15, 5.50, 8.20, 11.10 (Sat); Odeon Marble Arch. 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45 (Sat) REAMSPOTTING (18) Adaptation of Irvine Weish's smooth in novel. Haymarket MGM 1.20, 3.45, 6.10, 8.40; Toroadero MGM 9.30, 12midnight (Sal); Warner West End 12.50, 3.00, 5.00, 7.20, 9.40, 12midnight

5.D., 5.D., 7.21, 9.40, L'amidnight
UNDERSTOURD (15) Surreal Instory of
Yugoslavia, Renoir 12.55, 4.25, 7.45
THE USUAL SUSPECTS (18) Five known
felvos plan another crime whilst in custody.
Panton St MCM 125, 3.50, 6.20, 8.45;
Warner West End L'amidnight

WARTING TO EXHALE (15) A group of friends berate the lack of eligible men in Phoenix, Arizona. Trocadero MGM Sat 12midnight; Warner West End 11.50 West End Booking Lines Numbers 0171 except where noted: some

0181-970-0013: MIGM SWSS CERTE 0181-970-0017: Tort Ct Rd MGM 0181-970 6032: Trocadero MGM 0181-970-6015; The Minema 369 1723; Odeon Haymarket 839 runema 504 1725; Odeon Haymarket 839 7697; Odeon Leicsster Square 930 3232; Odeon Marble Arch 72 3011; Odeon Mez-zanine 01426-915663; Odeon West End 930 7615; Plaza 0990-883990; Remoir 837 8402; Warner West End 437 4343.

repertory cinemas EVERYMAN opposite Hampstead Tube NW3 (0171-435 1525)
Withmail & I (15) Sat Ipm. Spm. 9cm + The

Withnail & I. (15) Sat Ipm. Spm. Spm. + The Big Chill (15) 3.05pm, 7.05pm The Adven-tures Of Priscilla, Queen Of The Desert (15) Stm 3.20pm Bicycle Thieves (U) Stm 5.20pm, 9.10pm + The Night Of San LOTENZO (PC) 7.10pm ICA CRUENA The Mail SWI (0171-930 3647) Nadja (15) Sat, Sun 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm Another Girl Another Planet (15) Sat, Sun 6.30pm At Sundance Sat, Sun 8.30pm

Sun 6.30pm At Sundance Sut, Sun 8.30pm
NFT South Bank SEI (0171-283 2325)
Otiver Twist (U) Sut 3-45pm A Lintle
Prunces (U) Sut 4pm To Kill a Mockingbrd
(PG) Sut 7.30pm Rage Sut 8.30pm Guardian Interview: John Woo Sut 8.45pm Lintle Princess
(U) Sun 4pm Accattone (18) Sun 4.10pm
Proof (15) Sun 6.15pm Mammta Roma Sun
6.30pm First a Gid (PG) Sun 7.30pm Thei
Driver (18) Sun 8.30pm The Brothers
McMullen (15) Sun 8.45pm
pommer CHARMES Leicester Place WC2

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place WC PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Pisce WC2 (0771-437 8181)
Land & Freedom (15) Sat 1.30pm The Brothers McMullen (15) Sat 3.45pm Dangerous Minch (15) Sat dpm When Sanurdsy Comes (15) Sat 1.55pm Showgirs (18) Sat 10.30pm Angels And Insects (18) San 1.30pm Shanghai Triad (15) San 4pm The White Balloon (1) Sun 43pm The Adventures Of Priscilla, Queen Of The Desert (15) San 4.5pm
REFERSOR STUDIOS CRUEBA Crisp Road W6 (0181-741 2255)
The Four Adventures Of Reinette And Mirabelle (U) Sat, San 4.5pm + Readexwas in Paris (PG) 8.50pm Rashomon (18) San 2pm + Red Dust (PG) 3.35pm

THEATRE

Mattrees — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tiee, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thu, [6]: Fri, [7]: Set West End__ CHAPTER TWO

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Communicative books
Angela Thome in Alan Ayelsbourn's contedy
thriller.
Smoy Strand, WCI (0171-836 8888/9/cc 836
1479) @ Charing X/Embankment. Mon-Sat
7.30. [4][7] 3.00, ends 27 Apr. £12-£24. CHAPPARY
Shella Cish in Sam Mendes' revival of the
1970 Sondheim and George Furth musical.
Albert St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369
1730/oz 867 111119 Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45,
[487] 3.00, £10-£30.

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM assessaricana (wassinately Reduced Shakespeare Compony fast-forward through 37 plays. Criterion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) & Proc Circ. Wed-Sat 8.00, [5] 3.00, [7] 5.00, [1] 4.00, 55.50-520.

Nigel Williams's savage comedy.

Royal Court Stoane Square, SW1 (0171-730
1745) ⊕ Stoane Sq. Mon-Sar 7.30, [7] 3.30,
ends 20 Apr. £5-£18, copes swalable. AM DEAL MUSEAND

Martin Show and Anna Carteret star.

Theane Royal Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) & Piec Circ, Mon-Sat 7.45, [4][7] 3.00, ends 20 Apr. £10-£26. LA DOLCE VITA

Musical adoptation of Fellin's film.

Lysic Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith. Mon-Sut 7 30 (9 741 2311) - Danmet statut. 2017 - 27 Apr., 7.00), mais 20 & 27 Apr., 230, ends 27 Apr., 55-£15, concs available.

A Little Night Blasic Sean Marhins's pa tion of Sondheim. Today 200 & 7.15. Lytellors

Lytellors

Researcraftz And Galleinstern Are Dead Simon Russell Beale stars. Today 2,15 & 1,30.

Cotteslor:
Stanting Annony Sher as the great English
arriss Stanley Spencer, Today 2.30 & 7.30.
Olivier: £11.50.£30, Lyttelton: £1.50.£22.50.
Cotteslor: £10.£14.50. Day seats from 10am.
South Bank, \$E1 (0171-928 2252)
BR/© Waterloo.
BOYAL SRAMESPEARE COMPANY
The Residence:

The Bankcan: The Taning Of The Shrew Josic Lawrence stars, Enday 2.00 & 7.15.

The Pir:
The Balance Vanbrugh's bosserous Restoration councely, Today 2.00 & 7.15.
Barbican Theatre: £6-£24.50. The Pir: £10-£17. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891)

Barbican/Moorgate. PASSION Stephen Southern and James Lapine's

award winning musical.

Queen's Shaftesbury Ave (494 5590) & Picc.

Circ. Mon-Sai 8,00, [4] [7] 3,00, £13,50-£30. SKYLIGHT Minhael Clar

Michael Gambon and Lia Williams star.
Michael Gambon and Lia Williams star.
Windham's Charing Cross Road, WC2.
(0171-349 1736) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8.0 [7] 3.00, ends 27 Apr., £9.50-£25.

The 9065
Raw Lap speciacle.
Lawic Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494
5045) & Pior Circ. Mon-Thu 8,00, Pri & Sat
6,00 & 8,45, ands 8 June, £5-£72_50.

TRANSPOTTING
Stark insight into Edinburgh's drug culture.
Whiteball Whiteball, SW1 (0) 71-369 1735/cc
875 1111] BR/9 Charing X. Ilse-Fri 8.00, Sat
8.30, [4][7] 5.00, [1] 4.00, each J. June, £5-£16.

Beyond the West End

Ret's The Artis

Brothers of the Brush firminy Murphy's
scrizimed, brusally comic first play about
three Dublin house painters. Mon-Fri
7.30pm, Sat. 5.30pm & 8.30pm. 28.50-215,
comes available. bGreat Newport Street,
WC2 (0171-836 21.52) © Leicester Square. BUSE TREATRE

BUSE TREATRE

Samuel Adamson's

Michael

irony-laden debut play stars Michael Cashman and Kate Beckinsale, Mon-Sat 8pm. £9.50, cours £6. Shepherds Bush Gre (0181-743 3388) ↔ Shepherds Bush. GREENINGS THEATHE The Last Researches Nigel Williams' comic look at a long-running academic debate, set between 1920 and 1968, Mon-Sat 7.45pm,

mats Sat 2.30pm. £7.75-£15-50, cones available. Crooms Hill, SE 10 (0181-858 7755) BR: Greenwich. MINET'S READ

Definiting Borts Move Over During and
Sentimental Journey are among the him
performed in this Don's Day tribute. The-Sat
Spin, mais San & Sun 3.30pm. £10.£11, cones
£6.£7. Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916)

O Angel-Flighbury & Islangton,
Deadles TREE TREATE

◆ Angestrignous & Issain Claspell's 1921
The West Ris Blair in Susan Glaspell's 1921
tragi-conedy, Mon-Sat 7.45m, £7-£12.50,
cones wailable. Clasence Street, Richmond.
(0181-940 3633) BR/◆ Richmond. (1010) FOUNDAL, STRUTPRE EAST
The Solder's Song Brian James Ryder's gritty
but hamorous Northern Lish thriller, MonSat 8pm. 23-215, cones available.
Gerry Reffies Square, E15 (10181-534 (1310)
BR/© Stratford.

THE LIBE OF TABLES, ROYAL COURT
The Thickness Of Side Clare Mixingre's latest drama probes the discrimentwises of outward kindness. Mon-Set 7.45pm. £8. Mon, mat Sat & conce 25. Stoane Square. SW. (0171-730 1745) & Stoane Square. VOLUME VIC Muss hallo Strindberg's intensit drama. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3.30pm. fil4, concs ff.50. The Cot. SEI (0171-928 6363) BR/O Waterloo.

Around the country

Bristol THE ARE ROYAL
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THERE IS NOT THE THERE IS 1950s*
courtroon drame. Less perfs inday 2.30pm
2.30pm, 55-217.50, cones available.

& 7.30pm, £5-£17-50, concs a King Street (0117-987 7877) **Bromley**

CHINGS ILL THEATRE
July New musical thriller starring Dave
Willetts as the Doctor with a male-volent
alter-ego. Mon-Sar 7.45pm, mass Thu & Sat,
2.30pm. Dr. 950-£14.50, conos available.
High Street (0181-460-6677)

Dartford_ DECKARD THEATRE Chess National tour celebrating the 10th analyses removed non cereorating the rotal analyses are of the musical with lyrics by Tim Rice, Today 2.30pm & 7,45pm, £7,50,£22,50, cones available. Home Gdns (01322-23000)

Guildford_ YWOMPE ARIAMID TREATRE
That Good Night Dorald Sinden stars in NO
Crisp's new play about a family holiday in
Italy, Mon-Thu 7.30pm, Pri & Sat Spm, mats
Thu & Sat 2.30pm, £10-£19-50, coxes
available. Millbrook (01483-440000)

<u>lpswich</u> WILLEY THEATHE
A Charms of Binapproval Rivairy rears as maly bead in an amateur dramatic company. The-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8pm, mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm, £7.50-£11.75, concs available.

Civic Drive (01473-253725) WOLSEY THEATRE

Newbury_

WITEMMAL THEATINE
Unriving Was Dalay Al Matthews and Helen
Ryan in Alfred Uhry's Puliner Prize-winning
play, Mon-Sat 7:30pm, mars Thu & Sat
2:30pm, foi-f13:95, cones available.

Norwich

Nonwest PLATHOUSE
Runne and Juliet Shahespeare's nonantic tragedy is co-directed by Zoe Seaton and Henry Burke. Mon-Sat Spin, mats Tru & Sat 2.30pm, £3-£1, conce available.
St George's Street (01603-766466) MEFFELD THEATRE

HIR PRELID TREAMER
Rase Musical about a comman's exploits, by
the creators of Return To The Forbidden
Planet. Tonight 8pm. £10-£12, comes
available. University Road (01703-671771) Stratford-upon-Aron AL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE Toutin light Emily Joyce and Edward Petherbridge in lan Judge's production of Sukconcare's romantic contesty. Mon-Sat

Shakespeare's romanine contedy. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mais Wed & Sat 1.30pm, £6-£43-50. Waterside (01789-295623)

EXHIBITIONS Bath BEAUX AXTS

Young British Scalators Includes work by Paul Amey and Patrick Barber. Mon-Sal 10am-Spm, free. York Street (01225-464850) Cambridge

FITZWI LIAM WESSEM
Primaring Art & Design 19451995 Post-war craft and design including,
work by Hans Coper and Robin Welch. TheSet Illam-5pm, Son 2.15pm-5pm, free.
Thumpington Street (01723-332900)

London_ LOBOOTI
BRENCH ART CALLERY
Binghier Creator of the Ballets Busses:
Exhibition exploring the artistic and cultural
achievements relating to Diaghley. Mon.
Wed-Sat 10an-6.45pm, The 10am-5.45pm,
Sun 12noon-6.45pm, 25, cores 53.
Silk Street, ECZ (0777-638 4141)

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CAUDEN ARTS CENTEE
Arts Newman Recent carvases and bores.

whenever refer to tear time.

Refs Newmann Recent canvases and bores.
The-That 12000α-Span, Fri-San L'houn-open.
free, Arkwright Road, NW3 (0171-435
2643(5224) ♦ Finchley Road. COURTMULD INSTITUTE GALLERIES Thomas Calesborough Unique opportunity to see over 50 drawings. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, San 2pan-6pm, free, Samerset House, Strand, WC2 (0171-873 ±326)

◆ Temple. DULINICE PICTURE GALLERY

DULYNCS PICTURE GALLERY
Soess and Death Drawings of tombs and
monuments by Sir John Soame. The-Fri
10am-Span, Sat 11am-Span, Sam Zhan-Span.
2c. conc. El. Free Friday, Callery Read, SE21
(0181-693 5254) BR: West Dulwich. (BIBI-NAS SEM) DAY WAS BARRANDE HAPWARD CRULERY
Spellbound: Art & Film Art and film explored.
Mon-Sun 10am-6pm (until 8pm line & Wed)
55, econs: 53.50. Belwedere Road, SEI (U171960-4242) BR/W Waterloo.

TER ENLIGHT
Production New film and video by five artists. Mon-Sun 12mon-7.30pm (Fri until opm) £1.50 day m Ship. The Mall, SW1 (0171-930) 3647) ⊕ Charing Cross.

real street. GRILLERY
Master places from the Doria Passphili Gellery
Includes Velazquez. Caracci and Raphael.
Mos-Sat (Nan-épin, Sun Jom-épin, free.
Trafalgar Square, WC2 (U171-839 3321)

O Charing Cross. KATIONAL GALLERY

◆ Charing Cross.
♦ Charing Cross.
QUEEN'S GALLERY, BUCKINGSRAM PALACE Locusine on Yand One hundred drawings from the Queen's collection. Mon-Sun 9,30an-4,30pm. 2,50,000 st. 250.
Buckingham Gate, SWI (0171-799 2331)

O Victoria.

ROYAL RABERY OF ARTS

Produck Luighton 1830-1896 Major show for historical Victorian painter. Mon-Sun Hamopm. 55-90, cones 25-30. Burlington House, Piccadally, W1 (0171-439 7438) O Proc Circ. SAATCEE GALLERY

SAJUSH GALLERY
bung Reservages Per 2 Jacque-line
Humphries, Richard Prince. Rony Oursier.
Charles Ray and Kile Smith. Thu-Sun
Janon-épin. Tun Free, Fri-Sun £1.50.
Beundary Road, NW8 (0171-624 8299) BR: South Hamp SEPENTE GALLERY Jean-Bichel Bengstat Survey of his complex, raw images. Mon-Sun 10am-fignt, free. Kensington Gardens, W2 (0171-402 6075)

O South Kensington. TRITE GALLERY Cozame Important survey with 90 pointings and 70 watercolours, Mon-Sun 10am-5-50pm, £7, cones £4. Millbank, SW1 (017)-887 8000) © Pimico.

WHITEHAPE, ART CALLERY

Jeff Well Artificial everyday scenes in wallmounted lighthous. Toe-Son 11am-Spm

(Wed until Spm), free. Whitehapel High

Street, E1 (0171-522 7888) & Aldgate East

Oxford_ CHEST CRURCH PICTURE GALLERY
Patronage in the 18th Century With drawings
by Zaccaro, Michelangelo and Thiddeo. MonSat 10.30cm-1pm, 2pm-4.30pm, Sun 2pm4.30pm, St. (comes 50p. Christ Church College
(0)1865-276150)

MUSEUM OF MODERN AIRT Surgio Castargo: Scaleture 1960-1990 Retruspective show. The Director's Eye Drawings and phonograpus oy european him-manters. To Sar Dam-open (Thu umil 9pm), Sun 2pm-open, ends 14 Apr. £2.90, cones £1.50, free Wed Ham-1pm, Thu 6pm-9pm. Pembrake Street (01865-722731)

COMEDY Epsom SENION DAY AT EPSON PLAYBOUSE

London BEST BUSTANO-HP AT COMEDY STORE
Dermot Carmody, Paddy Keilry, John Mann,
Matt Welcome & Paul Zenon.
Conight Spra & 1 Damidnighs, Ozendon Street,
SW1 (01426-914433) & Ficadilly Chrus, £10.

BOUND AND GAGGED AT THE TUFNELL PARK THE EDIT OF THE PARK THE VIRE.

REMERT 9.15 pm., Tufnell Park Road, N7
(0)71-483.3456) & Tufnell Park, £6, cones £5,

CHISWICK COMERY AT ROWNYS CAFE BAR Cris Camelloti, Sean Lock & Tony Roche. Tonight 9pm, Stilehall Parade, Chiwick High Road, W4 (0181-742 1649) Tonnershury, £6, comes £4.

CONTENT CAFE
Dave Jones, Militon, Jones & Sean Meo.
Tonight 8.30pm. Rivington Street, ECL
(0171-739 5706) & Old Street, ES. EAST BUNNER TAYERN Graham Norton, Smiley & Bert Tyler-Moore, Tonight Spin, Lordship Lane, SE-(0181-299-138) BR: North Dulwich, £5,

CURCA 2-4.

HA BLOOMY BA AT THE VIADUCT
Ons Cannelloui, Scan Lock & They Roche.
Tonight 9pm. Urbridge Road, W7 (0181-566
4067)

Baston Mancu/BR: Hanwell, E5, HAMPSTEAD CONTENY AT THE WASHINGTON

Rhona Cameron, Ivor Dembina & Earl Olein.
Tonight Spm, Englands Lane, NW3 (0171-483 3647) & Belsare Park, £6, comes £5. NAME LEGES BATTERSEA

Dominic Holland, Scan Meo & Jim Tavare.

Dominic Holland, Sean Mee & Jim Harman Tonight 7, 15pm & 11,15pm, Lavender Gardens, SW11 (0171-924 2766) BR: Clapham Junction, 110, canes £7. IONEL EMIS CARWEN Jem Breuter, Tim Clark & Tony Wood, Poright 7,15pm & 11,15pm, Chalk Farm Road, NW1 (0171-924 2766) @ Camden Town, £10; cones £7.

Jose Lawrence, Paul Merton, Neil Mullarbey, Lee Simpson, Jim Sweener & Richard Vranch, San 8pm, Ovendon Street, SW1 (01436-914433) & Pizadilly Circus, 59, or o Apr., 17m, 210.
The Unitaried Yorth, Gausanteed Ligh, The Charles Naplers US sun' and punk rockers with garage and instrumental support.
The Gausse Highbury Corner NS (0171-607)
1818/cc 344 0044 & Highbury & Islington.
Sun Sem 66.

BAHAMA CABARET AT THE BEDFURD Phill Jupites & John Moloney, Sun Spm. Bedford Hill, SW12 (0181-673 1756) © Balham, fo, cones f4. UP 18E CREEN Reger Dee, Seen Lock & Woody Bep Muddy, Son 9pm, Creek Rosal, 5E10 (0181-858-581) BR: Greenwich, £6, copes £4.

DANCE London_ DRILL HALL ARTS CENTRE The Charmock Company: Watch My Lips
Dance-drants satinising men's sensal potities. Last perf tonight 7:0pm. £9-£10, concs
£6. Chemies Street, WC1 (0171-637 8270)

© Goodge Street. PLACE THEATRE
Nabld Siddings & Company: Rong Kathak
dancework from India about colour and
form in the Same Same Same Same

mood change. Tonight 8pm. 26-28. Duke's Road, WC1 (0171-3870031)

CLASSICAL

Eastbourne_ CONGRESS THE AIRE
Bearmemoth Stationatin/Labbook With
Trinity College Chamber Choir in Bach's St John Pression. Sun 7:30pm. 48-511-50
Devonshire Park Centre, Compton Street
(01323-412000cc411555)

London BARRICAN HALL The Sixteen Claristophura With the City of London Sixtemia in Mozart's Requiera. Sun 7.30pm. 19.50-122-50. Barbican Centre, ECL

. OUSEEN ELIZABETH RALL QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL
The Bayworth Ring Films of the classic Harry
Kupfer-directed cycle, conducted by Daniel
Barceltoim. Obeingold, roday Ipm, Walkare,
today 5 30pm, Siegried, Sun 5pm,
Gutterdaninterung, Each opera, 27:50-£13.50
All Four, 22:50-£42.50, South Bank Centre,
SEI (0171-960-63/C) BR/O Waterloo.

Endellion String Quartet Beethoven's 2nd Rasumovsky with Mozart's Horn Quinter. Registration of the Property o

OPERA London LONDON COLESCUR: ENGLISH NATIONAL **Den Pasquale** Donizetti's comedy in Patrick Mason's production, conducted by Michael Mason's production, conducted by Micha Lloyd, Tomight 6,30pm, 53-550, St Martin's Lane, WCZ (0171-632 8301) © Leicester Square/Charing Cross.

Piymonth THE ATRE ROYAL D'UVLY CARTE
The Minate Fenton Gray directs Gilbert and
Solivan's coperata for the company. Tuday
2.50pm & 7.30pm. £6-£21. Royal Parade
(01752-267222)

POP Bath
Gong, Oarlo Testacles, Forcapine Pres, Bere
And How Seventies space-rock legends headline. Bath Pasition North Parade (0122548931) Tonight Spon, £15.

Brighton Terrook Acoustic show from the Squeeze sengwriter. Concorde Madeira Drive (01273-606460)

Bristol
Region Death British death metal originals.
Bristol Barkeller All Saints Street (01179268514) Sun 7.30pm, £7.

Cressower 2006 Hardcore sil-dayer with Stuck Mojo, Mensuder, Power Of Expression, Stayenot and Turnedl. Actorics Colaring Cross Road WC2 (0171-434 0403) & Rot C. Road, San Ipm, Etc. 434 (Mtf) & Roit Ct Road. San Ipm, E10.
Beys Of The Longh, The Pennins Fiddler Aly
Bain's Scottish folkes, with all-festale harmany group in support, Berbican Hall Barbiam Centre EC2 (0171-438 8891)

Ø Moorgale. Emight 7-20pm, E7-E10.
No Way Sia, The Other Beetles. Tribute hand
double-bill. The Forum Highgate Road
NWS (0171-344 (044) BR/G Kentish Rown.
Tomght Opts, E6.

Beenie Man, Stocking When Grew Jamaican rage: MC. The Forum Highgaie Road NWS (0171-344 (044) BR & Kentish Town, Sun & 3 Apr., 7pm, £16. The Universel Youth.

Sun Span, 56.

Gary Haman Eighties synth star back in the charts with the TV ad-assisted re-release of Cors. Hamanesmith. Apollo Oueen Caroline Street W6 (0171-416 6080) & Hammersmith. Sun Tyan, 512.

Barry Manilon Cabaret cruoming from the maker of Mandy and Copacobana. Wombky Arena Empire Way (0181-900 1234) & Wenbky Park. Tonight 6:50pm, 512:50-535.

Mitton Keynes
Gary Names See London. Wonglaton Centre
Chaffron Way (01908-060392) Torright

7.30pm, £9. Oxford

Who & The Machanics Genesis man Mike Rutherford's successful AOR side-project. Apollo Theme George Street (01865–24544) Tonight 7-30pm, £14.

Reading
Gent Threak See Brighton. Allercar Gun
Street (01734-561116) Sun 3pm. £6-£7.
Millio & The Heckenics See Oxford.
The Hengon Queens Walk (01734-591591)

jazz, world, folk etc London
Billy Judder: & The Flues Collective Punk-izz guitarist. Pink Parachuse Clab Lewistean Labour Club. Lames Grove SE13 (0181-690 0431) BR: Lewisham. Tonight

Ipm, 62. Scott Resilton Quartet Tweedy US tenoris: Pizza Express Dean Street W1 (0171.439 87.22) ⊕ Tost Ct Rd. 6-8 Apr. 8pm, £12.50. 8722) & Tott Cr Rd. 6-8 Apr. Spin. 112-0.
Curton Pulsers Mr. Moe plays cabartet.
Pieze on the Park Knightsbridge SWI (0171235 5550) & Hyde Park Corner. Mee-Sat 9pot. ends 13 Apr. £18. Rob £16.
Skambhour Oz Acid juzzazs. The Powerhans Seven Sisters Road N4 (0171-344 0044)
& Firsbury Park. Tonight 8pot. £6.
Preddie Habbard Bop trumpet legend with a finity Bril-jazz sectie. The Rhythmic Chapel Marhot (0171-713 3859) & Angel. Tonight & Sun 8pm. £12. comes £10, means £8.

& Sun Spm, E12 comes 210, means 26.

Alan Wilkinson/Paul Handon/Shoon R Fell
Out-jazz comference. Varier Stoke Newing-ton Church Street N16 (0171-254 6516) BR:
Stoke Newingson. Sun Spm, 24, cenes £3.

LITERATURE rune Worth: The Letters Of Sand and Flanburt Peter Byre joins Irane Worth is this perfec-mance based on the letters of George Sand & Gustave Flaubert, Today 4pm, £8-£15. Irane Worth: A Pertrait Of Edith Whartse rend worse. A restract of construent con-trene Worth calebrates her eightigh birth-day with a portrait of the American poet and novelest. Abseide Theure Almeida Street N1 (0171-359 4404) & Angel. Tonight 8pm, 28-£15.

EVENTS Bury St Edmunds
Costumes From Prite & Projection Display
of costumes from the revent BBC television
serial. Manor House Museum Honey Hall
(01284-75707ii) Ends 14 Apr., phruse for

Cardiff Fiding Sidns A look at the historical and culural background of these sailing vessels. Rielsk Industrial & Maritume Museum Bute Street (01222-481919) Ends 21 Apr. phone

Chepstow

Chepstow

Chepstow

Chepstow

Character Roadshow Activities and games bringing prehistoric days to life for children of all ages. Drill Hall Lower Church Street (1291-62981) Mon-Sum Ham-Spu, ends 24 Apr. 11, cones 30p., under 18s & Monmouth Borough Residents free. Dover
Easter for Trail Puzzles and posers for all the family. Winne Ciffs Experience Market Square (1) 304-210(1) Mon-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 21 Apr, 1439, child £350, comes £339, under 4's free.

Eastbourne
The Planton Of The Opers On toe Colourful costumes, an original sever and a cast of top states in this show for all ages. Devonsite fast Theorem Compton Street BN21 (01.323-41.2000) BR: Eastbourne, Todys 2.30pm & 7.30pm, £8-£16-50, cones available.

London
Variated Cardens Of State Everation of a
Roman Landscaped garden. Accademia Italinna Grosvenor Place SW1 (0171-235 0303)

O Hyde Park Corner. Mon-Son IOam-tynn, and I May, £4, concs £2.

end 1 May, 54, COMS 52.

Spring Graft Fair Event featuring over one
bundred and fifty skilled craftsmen. Alexandru Palaze Wood Green NZ: (0181-365
2121) BR: Alexandra Palaze. Today
10.01cm-5.00pm, Sun & 8 Apr., 10cm5.30pm, 54 50, coms £3.51, child 52.50. Easter Folk Festival Four days of folk music from today's up and coming young perform-ers. Burbican Hall Barbican Centre EC2 (017)-638 8891)

Mourgate. 6-8 Apr.

phone for details.

Easter Wite Fastival Annual event featuring littles of all shapes and sizes. Rinckheath SE3 (01322-284434) BR: Blackheath. Sun & SES (11) 3.12-39-45-11 fee.

Bartanouth House Authories & Brocaste Fair
56 exhibitors setting a wide variety of silver, jewellery, porcelain, glass, furniture and decorative items. Dummath House Charles Street W1 (01)71-493 33.21) Sun [Oam-

30pm, £1.20, child free. 4. Nome Exhibition Europe's greatest

Leaf Count Exhibition Cen-Meal Bosse Extended Enrope Sylvation (consumer show, Earl's Court Exhibition (tre Warwick Road SW5 (0171-373 8141)

the Warwick Road SWS (MT-917-918).

Dearth Court. Sai & San (Ram-Spin, 8 Apr., 10am-Spin, ends 8 Apr., £9, comes £5, under 5's free.

Roading the Fashkan Fahr Unadolterated shopping with well-known labels at below retail prices. Rentington Town Hall Hornton Street WS (0171-97; 5464) De High St.

Engineerie Today (Barn-Gun, £7.) Kensington, Today (Cam-6pm, 12. Oxford & Cambridge Boat Race Annual race

Maidstone Easter Conferences: Trac 200,31 reservings including Maypole dimering. Morris men and a Mad Flatter's tea tent. ee/s Caste (01622-880008) 6-S Apr. 10am-5pm, £6, cones £4.80, child £3.70.

AUCTIONS Swindow: Two day book rate, Wednesday and Thursday (Ham) when a unique library of books about travel and archaeology in the Midde East will be offered, tacheding papyrus frag-ments. Dominic Winter, The Old School, Masswell Street (01793-011340). Mixwell Street (01793-611340).

Bone Three-day sale: Thursday (10.20am), watches, gold petts and 12pm) Christopher Dresser picnic set, pt "cry, toys and ethnic items: Friday (10.30cm), clocks, surveying, medical and musical instruments, pictores prints and consume "including top hats, and (1pm), furniture, inc." diag a full-size snooker table and bress below "ading Sahrday, household effects ("ferr Graves Son & Pilcher, Hove Auction Remand, Hove Street (01273-735266).

Bleentor: 15th namual auction of antique and

Hove Auction Re. a.a., Hove Street (01273-735366). Beastier: 15th namual acction of antique and later craftsm.n.'s tooks. Thursday (10.30am). Messengers, 37 Sheep Street (01869-252901). Cambridge: Musical unstruments - string woodwind, manos, organs, electronic leyboards, nest Saturday (12 mon) at Linton Village Hall. Lancaster Auctions (01:223-50266). Beasties: Sporting unemorabilis, coins, metala automobilis, toys. Friday (4.30pm). Claure Raule, Manor Orchards, Corkscrew Lane, Staplegroue (01823-324983). Gruenwiche Jeweilery, much with no reserve, including two kilos of gold in parcels and single intens, original Victorian and Edwardian rings, necklaces, brooches, broeclets, and a private collection of pearls and a selection of pre-Fillies watches - Rolex, Tiffany, Omega, Le Coultre: Mon (7pm) in the Trafalgar Tayern. Coutts Jeweilery Auctions (0181-293 1954). Sattus-la-Rahffield: Remaining contenus of a Derbyshire rectory and contents of Fernadel-House. Kiribay in Ashfield, comprising antiques someware from, Wednesday (11mm) at The Auction Gallery, 87 Chatsworth Street (01773-872419). Mattitechness: Woodworkung machinery and (01773-872419).
Notingham: Woodworking machinery and fitted buthrooms. Thursday (10.3%m) at 92 Rolleston Drive, Arnold. John Pyc (0115-970

1910). Antiques Trade Gazette (0171-930 4957), Government Auction News (0171-353 7300, Fux-U-Back Hotline 0330-423488).

NEC Antiques Birmingham, Thursday-Sunday first April Iau, joining NEC Angust (0121-767 2760). 767.2760), stafford, next Saturday and Sunday (West Midland Antique Fairs (1743-271444).

Midland Antique Fairs (1743-271444).

Missemeth East Midlands, Desington Park, today and tonsurrow (Four in One Promotions 01455-233495).

Bartmeath House Antiques and Bracasta, 37 Charles Street, Maylair, London W1, tomorrow (Adams Antiques D171-254 4055).

Easter Antiques and Cellecters, 400 stands, Hall 3, Wembley Ethibition Centre, Monday Haw 0144-400570).

Church services

Easter Day CONTENSET COMEDIM: Scan HC. 9.30am Mailes-Vangham Williams in G: Ham Samp Enchanist, Conv-nition mass (Mozzer), The Archklathory, 3.15cm Engerong, Dyson in D; 6.47pm Consplane. The Rev RHC. Serious, 8.45cm HC: Hours Sumg Enchanist, WREMERTER Seam, 8.45cm HC: Hours Sumg Enchanist, Subzentineaus, 1860acris, The Archbeshopy, 11.30am Matters, Collegium regular [1]-centils. The Very Rev Raymontal Formals: 4-pm Encepaning, Stanford in A.

Raymond Formell: 4-year Eventones, Shantred in A.

1805.NI. GUREDRAL: 7, Claim Mahasi. Aum HC. 10mm
Choral Eucharist, Messe autenne lie (Langhas). The
Rishop: 3.30pm Festal Eventone, Christotter service
(Walton), Canon Alastari Redistra.

1807. Statistics, Schauster Redistra.

1807. Statistics, Statistics, Statistics, Schauster Vigil.

1807. Statistics, Stat CHRISTERII CHRISTIAL SERII. VARI VI. 11021 AMBRICA.
Stanford in B flat. The Bishope I turn Some Bachemia.
Minah howb in D (Montari). The Denn. 3 Alpun Eversone, Hawes in D.
BH CHRISTIAL SLIVEN HC. 10 AMBRICA Song Encharte.
Schubert in G. The Bashope, X-Syes Eventone.
DEER CHRISTIAL SLIVEN HC. 1 AMBRICA.
Mina Sanci M. Scolai (Hawda). The Bishop, II Alban
Mettin and Biscann of Choristers. Irritard in F. The
Dent. Jun Procession and Garch, Montal in L. 6 Alpun
Eventing Service. The Procession.
Scolai Garch, Montal in Al. 6 Alpun
Eventing Service. The Procession.
Service Scolai Scolai (Hawda). Procession
Service The Dent. Jun Festal Eventuring followed
by Emmaiss Procession. Stanford in A.

SERFORS EINEMBM. Sum HC: 10mm Cathedral Eschemat and Procession, Rhemberger in E. The Dunar, 11.30mm Marinas, Sanders in B. Br. the Behom; 2.30pm Evenous and Procession. The Chancellot.

11.50mm Marinas, Sanders in B. Br. the Periody. 2.30pm Evenous and Procession. The Chancellot.

11.50mm Sanders Sanders Endergroup of the Sich(South The Dunary Sanders Endergroup of the Sich(South Sanders Sa

WHI S DEMEDBIL: 7mm, fum FEC, 9.45mm Some Encharies, Schabert in G. The Right Rev J.L. Thompton: 1.1.18mm Hairins, Standard in C. 15pm Erentsong, 30 Partly acress (Electricit). The Very Ber R. Levin, 1802-18530 CHRISTIN: 7mm, from HC: 10.30mm Mellerni in G. The Bishops II.30mm Eventurest, Vergitam Wellerni in G. The Bishops II.30mm Eventurest, Vergitam Wellerni in G. Christin Philip Mongan.

C. The Belegier, L. Span Patch Eventone, The Rev Strate, Dyson in D. (a.15m) Patch Eventone, The Rev U.T.R. Court. Best City City Strates, Sam MC. In Jines Song En-chanist, St. Wooless service (Shapkard); 6.35pm Even-rone, Strateshoff of Ann. HC. Hann Chern Backarist, Manne Strateshoff, Court Strateshoff, Dr. Arth-School Market, M. Span Chern Eventone, St. Omiss (SHEISM), 7.34m Morring Proper, Sam HC. 3.34m Cyann Bendigord, Y. Engols Fundy Eurobard, The Minor Canost, 11.15am Choral Eucharst, Schu-hort in C., The Bishop; Jun Chern Eventone, Stan-ford in A. The Dean. Ham. Solemn Smith, open Marines, Sirm. Sam HC: Ham Some Enchanter with Bleasing of the Easter Car-den, Mozzet in C. The Degre, 3.15 pm Eversonick, Par-y in D. Canon John Halberton: 3.15 pm Easter Leveling Service, The Rev John Lete. MCSHIMSTER ARREL Sam HC. Ulam Marine; 11 ISom Abbey Euchasist. Comonation mans (Monzet). The Deem Apr. Fermiong, Dr. Emmol Doffs, "Adopt Or-pon Received by Martin Balter; 6.30 pm Exerting Ser-vice. Canon Authory Hambey; 300 pm Exerting Ser-son. Canon Authory Hambey; 300 pm Exerting Ser-

Confert, Unstaff Cathodral, 7.30mm Mericus, and Linsay, from FRC, The Deart, Sum Parish Bacharist, The Deart, 10.45mm Procession and Song Enchances, Scholart in C., The Bishop (2.1.55mm HC, 3.30mm Contell Sumpany, Dynox in D., 6.30mm Parish Escassors, The Rev

Whe 10am Three Hour Zachy Enter Day Service.

Gingal Bayd, St Joseph Palacer R. Olim HC; 11 15am
Song Enchronat, Manta hewis in F. (Monart), The Rev
NJ. Booth.

The Union's Chapel of the Song, Server HB, WCC: 11am
Song Enchronit, The Rev Dr Richard Barridge.
General Bayd, Tower of Londons 9 15am HC. Concea
J.C.M.W. Marphy: 11am Matter. Collegium repair
(Howells), The Rev Dr Vetter Debbas.
General Bayd, Hampton Concet 11am Cheral Euchardst.
General Hampton Concet 11am Cheral Euchardst.
Schubert in G.; Myan Fernsong, Beewer in D.
Dry's in General South Analler Street, W.; S. Henn HC.
Hamsong Ghand, South Analler Street, W.; S. Henn HC.
Hamsong Enchartst. The Rev Depton Dewer.
Dartst Genet. Welfington Barracks, SWI, 11am Cheral
HC, Michardyshelmer (Loydo). The Chapton.
Bayd Registal Caston, SWF: 11am Morrong Prayer, The
Rev T. Hines.
Bayd Rand Online Caspal. Greenwach. SE 10: 11am
Samp Enchartet, Stanford in C. The Rev City French.

Procherts, Missa brevis in D (Monart), The Bashopt, Jam Choral Demonay, Glemenster service (Bowells), Jam Choral Demonay, Glemenster service (Bowells), Jam Choral Demonay, Glemenster service (Bowells), Jam Choral Bowens, Glemenster service (Bowells), Jam Choral Bowens, Glemenster of the Prochair Condition and Stong Evolution, Cannon Helen Compiler.

Man Resident Proper In Cannon Helen Compiler.

Man Resident Proper In Character (Day Mans. Ham Monais) Proper In Character (Bowells), Mansacan Stones (Boster), The Views, S. 15m Low Mansacan Edward (Mansacan Mansacan M Stiller Level in an anatomic Service, Mr Jerumy JerMillian Span, 7.30pm Informal Service, Mr Jerumy JerBy Hishe, Prince Comsort Road, SWP: S.Vigan Eucharist, I am Choral Eucharist. The Rev Dr Martin
Irand. Hishes Secret Street, SWI: R.Vigan HC, Ham Song
Emcharist, Darke in E. The Review.
Si Bhas the Britty Holbern. ECL: 9.5km Sung Mass.
Hard Solvens Mass and Provension. Impedial Nelsons
Hard Solvens Mass and Provension. Impedial Nelsons
Hard Solvens Mass and Provension. Impedial Nelsons
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Hard Solvens Mass and Daveston. Impedial Nelsons
Holm Onacor & Upon Chattel Evensons, SI Patifu vertext (Howells), Learns John Chart.
Schulbert in G. The Rev Feeter Buboy
Britanier's Published Genden, SVS: Hum Rr. Ham
Solvens Mass. The New Mass.
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Hard Solvens and Mass.
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R 1800 hours from the Communication (Communication Communication Communi Billaguet in Mittly, Lower Thames Street, ECP Ham Song inclusion. Solicitat Mass.

Billaguet, Montainater Abbert: Ham Song inclusion. Minas beevin in Bird (Mexant). Catton Donald Gury. Minat beevin in Bird (Mexant). Catton Donald Gury. Billarl's, Regent's Park Rend, NWI - Statington. Monac referencies (Vetterie). The Rev. Authors State.

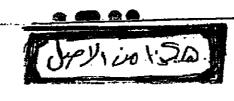
Billarl's de-Palch. WCC. Som Easter Vigit. Ran HC; 945cm Beachasts. The Rev. William Ratelsford. J. Wom Easter Vigit. Ran HC; 11. Jan. Vicksys to London Service. The Rev Bernhard Schnischman. 12. Nigan HC; The Rev William Ratelsford. J-Spm Chinase Service. The Rev Bernhard Schnischman. 12. Sept. Charal Personage, Wayne teening Service. The Rev Ernhard Schnischman. 12. Sept. Charal Personage, Wayne teening Service. The Rev Bernhard Schnischman.

Billary Bibbs, Vicarage Guet, We Ram HC; 9. 94cm Furch Luchered. The Rev F Gelt; 11.15cm Choral

Risingth, Bloomshary War, London WCL: Ifrant Sang Enchantst, The Bar Or Perry Burler; 12pm Mose, 20pm Eventong.

Risingth, Hancerer Square, W1: R.Donn HC, 11am Sang Enchantst, The Bar Song Earchards, Corresponding Party Figure States, Percentile; 8. Donn HC, 11am Sang Enchantst, Enchantst, Corresponding Risingth, Recording R Eucharist, Spotzentrease (Mozart), The Rev Heary Runchtstyret Staglant, Objected Roud, SW7-Sam, Sam Low Mans; Ham Sofeum Mans, Jagendmense (Haydis), Canon Chrestopher Colore, Staglant, Swiger Lane, EC2, Ham Sung Mans, Petite mener (Cocaron), The Ven Michael Coledough, Imple Charle, Flort Street, EC4; B. Som HC; H Sam Menang Prayer and HC. Venighan Wilsems in C, The Master St Columbia's Church of Scotland, Pears Street, SW1, 11am FB., The Rev John II, Medindres 6, Nipon Handel's Mes-dub

NWA. Ham. The Rec Insults Walker-Rigger Ppm Leening Service. Phase to the Market District. Palace Gardens Terrace. W2: 11am, The Rev Johnson Bucke.
Paddingine Unpul Service. St. Marris of Durch. Old Maryle-bone Reach. W1: 11am. The Rev Paul Crawshage.
Blackma Ville. Frequent Lanc. 1993: 11am Baster Sup-Monarthers. with Communicors. The Rev Poughl Monarthers. Ley Servore with Communion. The Rev Populal Macardhar.
R Isin's IRE, Northwayd. 10, 40mm Mormag Servore:
A Spin's IRE, Northwayd. 10, 40mm Mormag Servore:
A Sensyl & R Patters (Society of St Pins X), Suberton Road, NY 10mm. Lincon Indiatonal Latus Mass.
R Isine & R Isines I Lattherens, Gresham Street, ECC:
11sm Chord HC with Branc choir. The Rev Paul D. Schneisger 7pm Estics Wespers, Christ lag on todesbanden 18sch, The Rev Paul D. Schneiger.
Isingle Lulys Christian Community), Omeon CureIsingle Lulys Christian Community), Omeon Corect. We like Mass in the 4st of Consectment of Man.
The Rev E. Capel.
Sustain House of Households Households, Beckingham Gate. 5Wh; I lam, a Dopn, Dr R. I. Kendell,
Branchisty Edmil Isingle Gueler, Shefte-bory Avenue,
WCD: 11sm a, Siptim. The Rev Berne Höbert.
Wegenders Housel, Society of Frenchs (Conducted), 3
St Martin's Lane, WCD: Ham Mooting for Wortship. siah. Grun Cont (Church of Scotland), Revicil Street, WCL 11.15am HC The Rev Stanley Hood: 6.30pm. The Rev Dunta Townsond. the Lady of the Recomption, Warwack Street, W1: Street, Daris, Hann Street, Latin Mayer, Missag webenmin's Polyment 1: 12 year, Spring April, Marie Marie, Hann Steller, W1: Start, V. Street, Marie, Hann Steller, Latin Mone, 12: Wyen Malos, Fr Frances Edwards, 4, USprin, 6, 15 year, 8, 15 year,



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Staticy Pollack grace Aller's enjoyable marital crisis couledly (68603.392)

inita and the Englishmen 11.30am R4. A distinctly weint, dreamline took at the business of Inding a parties through the eyes of Lotta of Inding a parties through the eyes of Lotta Entert, a Swedish pomalist who spends a week going on blind dates with a variety of eligible English bachelers.

Mailing Sense 8:30pm R4: Business grips Charles Flandy fooks at the changing world of work and, finds, in the modern trend flowards temporary and

The Technophobes Guide to the Frong 7 30 and 18 Shore Superation of the Internet's Does this sound like the laydes of the Internet's Does this sound like the laydes of the Internet's Does this sound like the laydes of the Internet's Does this sound like the laydes of the Internet's Does this sound like the laydes of the Internet's Does the Superator of the Internet's Does the Internet's Does the Internet's Superator of the Internet's Superator and Internet's Superator of the Internet's Internet's Internet's Internet's Internet's Internet's Internet's Internet's Internet Internet's Internet's Internet's Internet's Internet's Internet Internet Internet's Internet Internet Internet Internet's Internet I

Seymour the Fractal Cat 1 Tem R4: A five part Handy toeks at the changing world of notify and. Table of competers getting uppity, in this case finds, in the modern trend lowerds temporary and using Seymour the Cat as a channel for rebellion part-time employment, not so much insecurity as Paul Bown plays the hapters arroral, to whom an opportunity to recreate our tives in more user bad stuff hapters. John Hegiev is his computer-tirendly forms. Interesting, if unconvincing foregroups the talking cat:

The Millions Pointer Radio Stlow Millennian Special 7.20m; KG, Onesol De Jette, parlo cornedy shows tooks back at the last 1,000 years Inree years early, on the grounds that by 1999 we'll all be so sick of the word "differential" first wa wouldn't listen. They have a point.

alest videos romana de la capación d

Plins A Short Filter although Milling Myryschol Kieskowski 1998 Polt 22 35am 88CZ. Showing in orthode to the eligibility linector who died last mouth—part of his Deleging states of films about the fen Communications (2041) 00.

The Mask of Orbitals Anif (3) it's a good week for historic modern opera. Philip Glass's cosmic Columbus, apis. This logice was on all this weekend, and here's Harrison Birturistics take on the Orbitals legend, triumching a South Bank retrospective of his work.

Sunday television and radio

BBC₁

7.40 Die Good Turn (John Paddy Carstairs 1954 UK). Norman Wisdom tries to raise money for an orphanage threatened with closure. In other

words, stay in bed (7973587).
9.10 News; Weather (5175804). *

9.15 See Hear! (R) (S) (733755). 9.45 This Multimedia Business (R) (S) (8683228). 10.00 Risen Today. An act of worship for Easter Sunday morning, live from Upton Vale Baptist Church, Torquay (S) (43736).

11.00 Urbi et Orbi. Live from St Peter's Square in Rome, Pope John Paul II gives his traditional Easter message and blessing (S) (3509378). 11.40 Secret Gardens (R) (2244945).

11.50 Michael Barry's Choice Cuts. Duck (2240129). 12.00 CountryFile (S) (24026).

12.30 The Care Bears Adventure in Wonderland! (Raymond Jafelice 1987 US), Curiouser and curiouser (S) (8048823).

1.45 EastEnders Omnibus (S) (7673281). * Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Stanley Donen 1954 US). Rip-roaring, no holds-barred musical in which seven wood-chopping brothers decide to get married. Howard Keel and Jane

Powell are the first couple (31213858). *
The Clothes Show. Featuring Bride of the Year Heather McCurry and her dress (S) (522736). *

Masterchef 1996. Return of Loyd Grossman and his strangulated diction, assisted by TV chef Gary Rhodes and Geraldine James (5852755). * News; Weather (117552). *

Regional News (521804). Songs of Praise. From York Minster to celebrate Easter Day (S) (891991). *

Antiques Roadshow From Fountains Abbey, North Yorkshire (S) (132910). *

Hamish Macbeth. isobel goes after a story which could be her big scoop (S) (460465). * Over Here. 1/2. See Preview (S) (4650113). News; Weather (286755). *

10.05 Ruby Wax Meets... Heidi Fleiss. See Preview (S) (852705). *

introduces more cornedy highlights (S) (752755). 11.05 Heart of the Matter, Joan Bakewell visits Jerusalem to explore the historical evidence

surrounding the story of Jesus (462194). 12.00 Lethal Charm (Richard Michaels 1991 US). Barbara Eden and Heather Locklear struggle to convince as investigative reporters in the White House press corps (S) (89359). *

1.30 Weather (5631934). To 1.35am. REGIONS. Wales: 12.00am Squash. 12.30 Film: Lethal Charm. 2.00 News; Weather.

BBC2

7.30 Children's BBC: Jim Henson's Animal Show. 7.55 Playdays, 8.15 Follow That Bunny, 8.45 Postman Pat. 9.10 Rupert. 9.15 The All New Popeye Show. 9.40 Phantom 2040. 10.05 The Littlest Pet Shop. 10.30 Grange Hill. 10.55 The Ant and Dec Show. 11.20 Charlie Brown and

Snoopy Show. 11.45 Star Trek (R) (9578465). * 12.35 The O Zone (S) (3902620).

1.05 Singled Out. Dating show American-style (S) (79347991).

They Were Expendable (John Ford 1945 US). Classic war movie, shot with passion and insight by Ford, who had served in the Navy himself - and indeed was still seconded. Robert Montgomery and John Wayne man the American motor torpedo-boats in the Philippines in the aftermath of Pearl Harbor (50496007).

Rugby Special. John Inverdale presents highlights of Gloucester v Bristol (S) (1117587). Argentinian Grand Prix. Live commentary from

Buenos Aires (S) (98820007). 7.15 Screen Firsts: He Shoots, He Scores (382262). 7.25 Bookmark. The concluding part of Sean

O'Mordha's impressive biography of Samuel Beckett. See Preview (S) (206194). * 8.20 Fantasy Football League. Angus Deayton and Zoe Ball share the lads' sofa (R) (S) (791281).

8.50 Down the Street of Dreams Documentary about a boxer (S) (2529945). 10.00 Argentinian Grand Prix Highlights from Buenos

Aires (S) (971007). 10.40 EBG Thunderheart (Michael Apted 1992 US). Powerful thriller set in the mid 1970s in which

FBI agent Val Kilmer – in denial of his part-Sioux nationality – is sent by cynical superior Sam Shephard to investigate a murder at an American Indian reservation in South Dakota (Followed by Weatherview) (68656484). * 12.40 Film: Sadgati (Satyajit Ray 1981 Ind). Politically

very direct film from the great Ray, telling of a high-caste bully working a low-caste labourer to (6326779). To 1.25am.

2.00 The Learning Zone: Learning Zone: Community Programmes Season – a Sense of Britain: Over The Edge (66311). 2.30 Open Space (85446). 3.00 Open Space (42156). 3.30 Over the Edge (76798). 4.00 Languages: Business Language Show (50589). 5.00 Business and Work: Open Space (28088). * 5.30 Business Matters (13069). To 6.00am.

REGIONS. Wales: 3.40pm Scrum 5. NI: 1.30pm Now You're Talking. 1.55 Film: Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV 6.00 The Sunday Review. 6.30 News and Sport. Presented by Anne Davies. 7.00 The Sunday Programme (15200).

actor/singer John Alford (S) (82213945). 10.15 Link (S) (5392587). * 10.30 Morning Worship. From the Roman Catholic

8.00 Disney Club. Guests include Pauline Quirke and

cathedral in Brentwood, Essex (S) (27804). *
11.30 Blessed Are They. The Dalai Lama reflects on the Christian concept of meekness (S) (6717281). *
11.55 Chalke Talk (S) (8518026).

12.30 Daffy Duck's Easter Show (R) (3919910).
12.55 Local News, Weather (89151910). *
1.00 News, Weather (42097674). *
1.10 The Easter Enigma. Sir David Frost and guests – including the Archbishop of Canterbury – search

for the truth behind the resurrection story. Good luck (3788216). * Murder, She Wrote. A writer is found dead. No,

not that one, unfortunately (3036026). * The Scarlet and the Black (Kenneth Colley 1983 US/It) The true story of Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty, a Vatican official who concealed thousands of allied PoW escapees in Germanoccupied Rome. Stars Gregory Peck, Christopher Plummer and John Gielgud (92806129).

5.15 The London Programme. The capital's firemen and women and how they're coping with budget cuts (5847823).

5.50 London Tonight (774216). *
6.15 News, Weather (582674). *
6.30 Surprise! Surprise! (S) (74552). *

7.30 Doctor Finlay. An ex-colonial couple recently returned from India give reason to worry. Who is their daughter and why is the husband so against

any contact with her? (\$) (88939). *
8.30. You've Been Framed! (R) (\$) (3718). * 9.00 Band of Gold. Collette turns to Rose for help as the drugs finally wear down Tracy (S) (6939). * 10.00 News, Weather (871007). *

10.15 The South Bank Show Special: Elaine Palge
Melvyn Bragg does the honours (S) (340129). *

11.45 Thesteland Mice trilication Variables and an armonic statement of the state interview with Mandy Patinkin (899910). 12.15 Sledge Hammer (20953).

12.45 Perfect People (Bruce Seth Green 1988 US). Comedy about an ageing couple who panic about losing their youth and start a crash programme to improve their looks (974156). 2.30 In Search of a Golden Sky (Jefferson

Richard 1984 US). Social services snatch three orphans from their lovable old uncle (685427). ITV Sport Classics II (40694205). 4.35 Shift (R) (8156514).

5.30 News (67345). To 6.00am.

6.15 Trans World Sport (R) (6586200). Take 5. With The Magic Roundabout, Bush Tails, Natalie, Ivor the Engine and Joggy Bear (S) (5938129).

7.40 The Magic School Bus (S) (7789910). 8.05 Sonic the Hedgehog (1500620). 8.35 The Trap Door (4414668).

8.40 Blast Off (3028705).

Channel 4

8.50 Biker Mice from Mars (R) (8834945). The Secret World of Alex Mack (S) (726465). Dumb and Dumber. The cartoon version of the successful Jim Carrey movie (2867194).

Insektors. Award-winning new series about an eccentric fantasy world of insectile characters

10.15 Sister Sister. US sitcom (S) (813945). 10.45 The Legend of the Hawaiian Slammers (S)

(812216). 11.15 NBA Raw. The New York Knicks v Orlando Magic (799571).

12.15 Mission Impossible (240151). * 1.15 All Dogs Go to Heaven (Don Bluth 1989

US). Animation by Disney rival Bluth, about a dog which dies and goes to heaven (S) (96552552). How Green Was My Valley (John Ford 1941 US). The Welsh valleys as created at the 20th Century Fox backlot, in Ford's sentimental, sometimes genuinely moving version of Richard Liewellyn's novel of turn-of-the-century coal mining life. Stars Walter Pidgeon, Maureen O'Hara, Oscar-winning Donald Crisp and Roddy McDowall (89102397).

5.00 The Pink Panther Show (7151).

5.30 Hollyoaks (R) (S) (197). *
6.00 Gulliver's Travels. See Preview (S) (56453281). 7.45 Travelog Sandi Toksvig in Toronto. (S) (993552). 8.00 Encounters: The Treasure of the Humboldt Glacier. The adventurous story of aircraft dealer Darryl Greenameyer, who planned to recover the abandoned American B29 bomber that crashed

near the North Pole in 1947 (S) (6045). * 9.00 Suicide Island. Repeated Secret History film about how, when US Marines invaded the Pacific Island of Saipan in 1944, hundreds of Japanese civilians committed suicide by jumping from a high cliff into the sea (R) (7281). *

10.00 The Crying Game (Neil Jordan 1992 UK). See The Big Picture (S) (30674755). *

12.05 Football Italia (5688/750).
1.05 Somer 1989 Isr).
Somer's feature film debut, based on his own experiences during the Lebanon War. Danny Roth plays a soldier who is sent to a rehabilitation hospital (286868), To 2,40am,

ITV/Regions

AMGUA As London except: 12.30pm Bugs v Daffy (47.465). 2.00 Highway to Heaven (3036026). 2.55 R.I Müschell – Birth of a Spittine (807.4262). 3.30 Film: The Bridge at Rema-gon (915007). 5.20 Carton (17.86804). 5.35 Heithoon (400.129). 11.45 Film: Night Moves (430378). 1.40am Hotel Babyton (3527799). 2.20am Shift (701.224). 3.20am Coach (49.432205). 3.45am Film: White Car-go (6172798). 5.00-5.30am Funny Business (15514).

THE TES/MBISNIBE
As Landon except: 12.25pm Tyre: Newsweek (3905007),
Yorks: The Powers That Be (391.4755), 2.50 Cartoon
Time (2394991), 3.05 Film Dr No (23817113), 5.05
RoboCop (75-43649), 11.45 Film: Hanover Street (430378), 1.40am Film: Dushman (79515446), 4.30-5.30am Joblinder (88040),

Carrical.

As London except: 12.30pm Newsweek (39/199/0): 2.00
Good Advice (1587), 2.30 Film: Return of the Jedi (15387262), 4.55 The Mekiting of Cutthroat Island (9617397): 5.20 Carbon (8349939): 5.40 Our House (329200), 11.45 War of the Worlds (865842), 4.10am Jobinder (8750021), 5.20-5.30am Asian Eye (1353798).

HTV
As London except: 12.25pm West: Dogs with Dunber (3905007). Wales: Wish You Were Here...? (3905007). 2.00 West: Cetaways (1587). Wales: The House (8508945). 2.30 West: West Match Plus (85533). 2.35 Wales: Soccer Sunday (7830129). 3.30 Sport Classics (194). 4.00 West: Film: The Caire Multiny (76176533). 4.10 Wales: Pictures from the Attic (2189194). 4.40 Wales: Pavaroth in Llangollen (3897465). 11.45 Film: Nigit Wales (430378). 1.40am Hotel Babylon (362778). 2.20am Shit (7012254). 3.20am Creaty (21725988). Night Moves (430372). L40am Hotel Babylon (3627790) 2.20am Shift (7012224). 3.20am Coach (21725080). 3.40am Film: White Cargo (2149595). 5.00-5.30am Filmsy Business (15514).

As London except: 12.30pm Cartoons (96-18736). 2.00 The Per (5-665736). 2.25 The Match (3177945). 3.25 Cartoon (8912736). 3.40 The Making of Cuttivost is-tend (2820020). 4.10 Films Dr No (91258736). 11.45 Film: Night Moves (449026). 1.35em Hotel Babylon (2587514). 2.20em Shift (7012224). 3.20em Coach (49432205). 3.45am Film: White Cargo (6172792) 5.00-5.30am Funny Business (15514).

WESIDERINRY
As London except: 12.30pm Update (3919910): 2.00
Wild West Country (1587): 2.30 Weeleard Match (649):
3.00 World of Wonder (7194): 3.30 Filter: The Bobo
(282281): 5.15 Dr Qurn, Medicare Wortran (752253):
11.45 Film: Night Moves (449026): 1.35am Hotel Babylon (2587514): 2.20am Shift (7012224): 3.20am Cooch
(49432205): 3.45am Film: White Cargo (6172792):
5.00-5.30am Furnry Business (15514):

As C4 exemt: 7.20am Tale Five (2494113), 10.15 Hol-As C4 except. 7.20 am Tales Five (249-11.13, 10.15 Holyosis (8139-45), 10.45 Sister Sister (812216), 1.15 Cuting Edge (840115), 2.15 Tooyn Tymor (1469-45), 3.15 The Legend of Hawaian Stammers (5431571), 3.40 Terrytoors (7334668), 3.50 Fibre, Julies Vernes Roder to the Moon (709533), 5.30 Pobol y Cwim (40788-465), 7.25 Dechrau Carru Dechrau (405552), 7.55 Newyddon (55656), 8.00 Sul Y Pfm (939339), 8.50 Spewnor Hapus: Talf of (626755), 9.50 Salth Ar Y Sul (775277), 10.10 Fibre, Rassing Arizona (113939), 11.55-1.30 am Fibre. Shes Gotta Have It (750804).

Radio

Radio 1

7.00am Kevin Greening 10.00 Dave Pearce 2.00 Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation 4.00 UK Top 40 7.00 Up for it., Radio 1 Sound City - Leeds 8.00 Radio 1 Sound City: Radio 1 Rock Show 10.00 Andy Kershaw 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 4.00-6.30am Charlie Jordan

Sing Something Simple 5.00 Pam Ayres 7.00 David Jacobs 7.30 Prom Praise 9.00 Alan Kelth 10.00 The Carry on Clan See Choice. 11.58
Pause for Thought 12.05 Steve Madden 3.00-6.00am Alex Lester

Paul Guinery. 8.55 Choice of Three. With politician David Mellor. 12.15 Music Matters, Ivan Hew

celebrates Easter with a special edition from Jerusalem.
1.00 News, Trading Places. (2/5).
1.25 The Sunday Concert. Intro-duced by Mairi Nicholson. BBC mic/Solti. Strauss: Also speach Zarathustra; Tod und

The East of Harewood introduces a programme of music by Profession Provided Praterials.

5.00 Carpette Praterials.

5.45 the States Feature:
Doublette Pland Med Scene. A portrait of Doublett's final years, with Housian Rodway as the great indicator composer.

6.30 Guidnest String Ensemble.
Mozart Desertingento in B flat.

ymphony no.9 in C; Grieg: 2 Elegalc metodies, op.34. 7.30 The Sunday Play: Measure for Measure. William Shakespeare's intense study of power and morality in which the Duke of Vienna leaves the city, charging his

Transasse. Machillan: Visitatio sepulchi. Vaugian Wulliams: Fine Mystical Songs. 11.15 Music from South Korea. 11.45-1.00sm Record Review.

James and Hattie Jaques (left).

Theme.
5.55-6.00am (LW) Shipping Fore-

5.00am Morning Reports

Alan Mann, 4.00 Jamie Crick and 7.00 Robert Cowen, 10.00 Book Browse, 11.00 Howard's Week. John Russell talks to some of the writers and participants at the 16th Annual Writers Conference held last weekend at the University of Southampton, 1.00 Mel Cooper. 4.00-6.00am Mark Griffshis.

6.00 Mitch Johnson 10.00 Gary Davies 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks

World Service (1984年) 16 96 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Short Story 2.45 On the Move 3.00 Newsday 3.30 UFO's Fact or Fiction ? 4.00 World Hews 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30. Jazz for the Asking 5.00 Newsdesk 5.30 Off the Shell: Miss Smith's Feeling for Snow

Satellite

(52910). 12.00 60 Minutes (52910). 12.00 60 Minutes (57514). 1.00 She-Wolf of Lon-don (83514). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix Long Play (7806232).

SXY MOVIES

MONE CHANGE 6.00am Little Nemo: Adventures in Stumberland (1993) (39858). 8.00 That's My Boy (1951) (28419129), 9.40 That's Enter-(28419129), 9,40 Thar's Enter-tainment, Part 3 (1994) (30191020), 11.35 Jurassic Park (1993) (50959465), 1,45 Cloak & Dagger (1984) (32141200), 3,30 E (3769), 4,00 Back to the Beach (1987) (42620), 5,30 Mouraker (1979) (757113), 8,00 Jurassic Park (1993) 8.00 Jurassic Park (1993) (27649). 10.00 True Romance (1993) (88216), 12,00 Trapped in Space (1994) (38345), 1,30 Chain of Command (1993) (292885), 3.10 inserts (1975) (395427), 5,00-6,00am Little Miss Broadway (1938) (21359).

COLO SERVICES CONTR 12.00pm The Last Days of Pompeii (1935) (250397). 1.40 The Bible (1956) (80243741). 4.30 Easter Parade (1948) (84171668). 6.15 Father of the Bible (1950) (68123910). 8.00 Guns at Batasi (1964) (16179). 10.00 The Unstablish touchables (1987) (10622200). 12.05 The Verdict (1982) (63262779). 2.15-3.55am The Devil Rides Cut (1968) (238408).

GOLB
7.00am Give Us A Clue
(1197378), 7.30 Gong for Gold
(1109113), 8.00 Angels
(9666910), 9.00 When the Boat
Cornes In (6296804), 10.00
Blake's Seven (1105397), 11.00
The Vortex Short (30988587),
11.10 Dr Who (96516587), 10.00
Perry Mason (47879533), 2.50
Paul Daniel's Culck Trick
(2656303), 3.00 The Bill Omnibus (71456804), 5.20 To the
Manor Born (5638378), 6.00 The
Two Ronnies (1124945), 7.00
Morecambe and Was (4949533),
8.00 Pokdark (53546804), 9.05
Elizabeth R (80526113), 11.00
The Bob Montkhouse Show
(1106026), 12.00 A Very Paculiar
Practice (24861040), 1.05 Thin
Air (1345427), 2.00-7.00am
Shopping at Night (8707303),
SXY SPORTS

Std' SPORTS
7.00am Rugby Union (13533).
9.00 Cricket (275674). 11.30
Putbol Mundial (32007). 12.00
Goals on Sunday (85303). 1.30
Rugby (10736). 3.00 Sodtish
Cup Semi-final (4732910). 7.00
Snooker (4131194). 10.30 Davis
Cup Terrals (27194). 12.303.00am Basketball (131885).

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Soccer Extra (5822007). 11.00 Australian Rules Football (9932668). 1.00 Snooker (1810755). 4.00 World Sport (1810755). 4.00 World Sport Special (5859113). 4.30 Squash (9924842). 5.30 Basketball (5800674). 8.00 Golf (4748668). 11.00 Scottish Cup Semi-final (3271552). 12.00 Formula Three (2818392). 12.30-1.00am Powerboat World (7840601).

6.00am Video Box. 6.30 Home Shopping, 7.00 Fate and Fortune. 7.30 The Why Files? 8.00 425. 9.00 Mind and Body, 9.30 Weight to Go. 10.00 The Fashion Show. to Go. 10.00 The Fashion Show.
10.30 Spanish Archer. 11.00
Showbiz. 12.00 Fate and Fortune.
12.30 The Why Files? 1.00 425.
2.00 Sport 2.30 Chequered Flag.
3.00 Canary Wharf Ormibus.
4.30 The Fashion Show. 5.00
Weigh to Go. 5.30 Mind and
Body. 6.00 Video Box. 6.30
Spanish Archer. 7.00 425. 8.00
Showbir 9 00 Fate and Fortune. Spanish Archer 7.00 423, 6.00 Showbiz, 9.00 Fate and Fortune, 9.30 The Why Files? 10.00 Weird Night, 10.30 The Fashion Show, 11.00 Topless Darts, 11.04 Spanish Archer, 11.30 Stand Up. 12.00 The Sex Show, 12.30 Weird Night, 1.00 Home Shoo-Weird Night, 1.00 Home Shop-ping, 1.30 Spanish Archer, 2.00 Fish Tank, 3.00 Showbiz, 4.00

Michael Adams is having a half-open g-file was not fine tournament in New enough to win the game, he York, where he leads the played 18.f4! to tempt field with three rounds left Viktor Korchnoi.

formidable is his ability to end, 27...Qd7 28.Qe5+ Rg7 conjure withering attacks 29.Nxg7 costs Black a piece. out of slightly advantageous positions, as he showed against Joel Benjamin.

expense of leaving his king 11 Ne4 Nac7 25 Ne5 Qe7 a little exposed.

Adams. Realising that the 14 Bxf6 gxf6

another weakness on the to play, a point ahead of e5-h8 diagonal. The final strain was applied by 24.Rc6 What makes Adams so and Black collapsed. At the

> White: Michael Adams Black: Joel Benjamin 1 දේ ජ 15 Rcl d5 16 Ng3 Qd7 17 Nh4 Bd6 2 Nf3 e6 3 c3 Nf6 4 e5 Nd5 18 f4 f5 19 Nh5 Qf7 5 d4 cxd4 6 cxd4 b6 20 Rf3 Kh8 7 Bc4 Ba6 21 Rh3 Rg8 8 Bxa6 Nxa622 Nf3 Qe7 9 0-0 Be7 23 Qe2 Ne8

Perplexity Return Trip:

No ordinary word rebus (Easter version). Eggs? Rabbits? Something else? Opening runes demanded, easily read with instructions, then - hold everything - next directed into newly generated sentence.

Ł

The above apparent gibberish should lead to the name of an animal - send it to: Saturday Pastimes, the Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, by 18 April, and you may win a Larousse Desk Reference Encyclopedia.

23 March answer: "Sure to frown in the wet conditions" is an anagram of "Now is the winter of our discontent". Winner: B.Annat (Hudders-

Bridge Alan Hiron

East West φK **±**042 ♥J942 ♥10863 ◊983 OAK5 **\$108652 ♣**J93 South

Everything looked straightforward to declarer on this deal - surely he had simply to rely on the Principle of Re-

With no opposition, bidding 4 ◆ by South was routine. (Yes, 3NT would have been a comfortable alternative.) West started with three rounds of diamonds but all went well for declarer and everything hinged

on his play of the trump suit. age play, South took a firstround finesse, losing to the king. He planned to take a second-round finesse (a losing play only if West started with if that had indeed been West's holding, he was equally likely to have won the first trick with

into an unexpected problem. occurred. South's opponents both drew attention to their convention cards where, under the heading of defensive sig-

nals, it was clearly indicated

that with KQ doubleton, they

always played the king first! So, if West had won the first trump trick with his queen, declarer could have confidently finessed on the second round. But, knowing the odds, he was going to do that anyway. Now South had a new problem: had the Principle of Restricted Choice lost its impact? You will have guessed the sequel: when he led the next trump from dummy and East played low, he went up with his ace and so lost a

Radio 2

7.00am Don Maclean 9.05 Steve Wright's Sunday Love Songs 11.00 Parkinson's Sunday Supplement 1.00 Desmond Carrington 3.00 Berry Green 4.00 Let's Dance 4.30

Radio 3

190.2-92.4Mtz FMD 7.00am Sacred and Profane. With 9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning

2.40 Splift of the Age. 3.40 Harmon A0 Haragood House Concerts.
The East of Harewood introduces

Mozart: Divertimento in B flat. K.137: Mendelssohn: String

deputy Angelo with the task of deaning up vice. 9,50 Chair Works, Taverner: Dum



Radio 4

7.00 News.

8 55 Weather.

(92,4-94,6MHz PM; 1986dz 199) 6.00am News Briefing. 6.10 Something Understood.

7.10 Sunday Papers. 7.15 On Your Farm.

9.00 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers.

9,15 Letter from America.

10.25 The Arcties.
11.25 Mediumwave.
11.45 Books & Company. (6/8).
12.15 Desert Island Discs. With veteran cricket umpire Dickle Bird.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World This Weekend.
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time.
2.00 The Classic Serial: All Things

2.30 The Classic Serial: All Things Betray Thee. by Gwyn Thomas. The Verdict. (3/3).

7.00 Children's BBC Radio 4: Trav-

elling Light. Ecky's Story. (6/5).
7.30 Reading Aloud: Growing Up.
A Triangle in Geography, by
Angela Huth. (1/7).

8.00 (FM) The Natural History

Programme. 8.30 (FM) Working History.(4/6). 9.00 (FM) Fourth Column Revisited

9.30 (FM) Costing the Earth.

10.45 Breaksway. 11.15 On Hearing the First Cuckog.

12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Story: April Fool.

Set in post-Solidarity Poland and written and read by Carl Tighe.

12.48 Shipping Forecast.

1.00 As World Service.

9.59 Weather.

10.00 News.

10.15 Medicine Now.

11.45 Seeds of Faith.

3.30 Pick of the Week.
4.15 With Great Pleasure.
5.00 News; Venom. (2/4).
5.30 Poetry Please!

5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather.

6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 African Harvest. (2/4). 6.30 In Business.

9.30 Morning Service.

10.25 The Archers.

7.40 Sunday. 8.50 The Week's Good Cause.

Choice

Two great peaks of English drama: a well-merited re-run of 1994's fine production of Measure for Measure (7.30pm R3), starring Saskia Reeves; and a celebration of The Carry On Clan (10pm R2), introduced by Barbara Windsor (talk about twin peaks! Phwoarr!, etc), starring that infamous double act Sid

5.55-6.00am (FM) The Radio 4UK

Radio 5
(693,909th MM)
6.05am Brief Lives 6.30 The
Breakfast Programme 9.05 Sunday
with Mair 11.35 Special Assignment 12.00 Midday Edition 12.15
The Big Byta 1.05 Baleer and Kelly
Up Front 2.30 Gary Lineler's Sunday
Sport 7.00 News Extra 7.35
You Cannot Be Serious 8.35
Caught on the Web 9.00 Dallyn
Worldwide 10.05 The Jab 10.35
Out This Week 11.00 Night Extra
11.35 SportsAmerica 12.05 Night
Moves 2.05 Up AB Night 5.006.00am Morning Reports Radio 5

Classic FM (1000-1019 PMR H0 7.00am Classic FM Hall of Farme. The All Time Classic Greats, presented by Sarah Lucas, including 9.00 Nick Bailey, 12.00 Mile Read, 2.00

Virgin Radio (1215; 1197-1208金融 105.2002) 10 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Graham Dene 2.00 Nicky Home

1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Development

STY ONE
6.00am Hour of Power (42674).
7.00 Undun (1256823). 11.30
Ghou-lashed (89991). 12.00
The Hit Mix (77620). 1.00 Star
Trek (93668). 2.00 The World at
War (64755). 3.00 The
University of Star (12000).
6.00 The Simpsons (6113). 7.00
Beverly Hills 90210 (10303).
8.00 Star Trek: Voyager (23823).
9.00 Love and Betrayal: The Mia
Farrow Story (26910). 11.00 Seinfeld (98741). 11.30 Duckman
(52910). 12.00 60 Minutes

6.00am Cleopatra (1963) (2193484), 10.00 Bedtime Story (1964) (72129), 12.00 The Viking Queen (1967) (61755), 1.30 Son of the Pink Partiter (1969), 1965 1.30 Son of the Pink Parither (1993) (20513129). 3.15 The Waltons' Crisis: An Easter Story (1990) (28568858). 5.00 Tom and Jerry: The Movie (1993) (49303). 7.00 Mario & the Mob (1990) (86465). 9.00 Murder One (38755). 10.00 Wolf (1994)(85963303). 12.05 The Movie Show (7333330). 12.35 Ghost in the Machine (1993) (507408). 2.15 Lies of the Heart (1993) (815717). 3.45-6.00am Sudden Fury (1993) (25478427).

SICY SPORTS

Fate and Fortune, 4.30 The Why Files? 5.00 Video Box, 5.30-

Pastimes

Chess William Hartston

Black's artificial-looking opening play had the sound objective of exchanging white-squared bishops and leaving Black with a strongly supported knight on d5. After exchanges on f6, he seemed to have strengthened his centre at the 10 Nbd2 0-0 24 Rc6 Qd7

little exposed. 12 Bg5 f6 26 Rxd6 Nd6
That was enough for 13 exf6 Nxf6 27 Nc6 1-0

Game all; dealer South North **48763 VAK5** ♦QJ107 **♦**K4

> **♦**AJ1095 ♥Q7 ◊642 ♣AQ7

stricted Choice? But he ran

Familiar with the percent-KQ doubleton), following the well-established principle that, king or queen.

At this point, a diversion second trick in the suit.

and the control of th



The big picture The Crying Game Sun 10pm C4

A story about the relationship between a former IRA terrorist (Stephen Rea) and a hairdresser who is not all she seems (an extraordinary performance from Jaye Davidson) does not, on the face of it, look like a sure-fire box-office smash. But against all odds that is what The Crying Game, Neil Jordan's imaginative love story, became. The director shoots with a rare sense of panache, and the plot has more twists than the Monaco Grand Prix. Quite rightly, he picked up the Best Original Screenplay Oscar for it.

Television preview RECOMMENDED VIEWING THIS WEEKEND by Gerard Gilbert



Bookmark Sat 7.10pm /Sum 7.25pm BBC2 Deep Secrets Sat 9.15pm BBC1 Gulliver's Travels Sun 6pm C4 Over Here Sun 8.20pm BBC1 Ruby Wax Meets... Sun 10.05pm BBCT

guaranteed sales to the very squeamish 20th-century TV networks of America?

It helps that Gulliver's Travels (Sun C4) has already mutated over the centuries into a children's story, thanks to that classic image of the man tied down by the denizens of Lilliput. Add to that a starry cast (Ted Danson as Gulliver, Mary Steeburgen, James and Edward Fox, Sir John Gielgud, Robert Hardy and Peter O Toole, just for starters), and lavish special effects, and you have a production that stands a good chance of recouping its \$13m outlay. It's already been a big hit in the States. The good news is that compromise is minimal, but not the entertainment.

The other big drama of the weekend, Over Here (Sun BBC1), presumably also has one eye on the American market, although in this case the result is neither over here nor over there. In fact, it's the most awful twaddle from John Sullivan (Only Fools and Horses), who really should know better - an overblown

ferocious it alienated the not-so-squeamish Dr Johnson) into a family entertainment with Air Force recruits. Martin Clunes, as a pipe-smoking. neck-twitching British Group Captain, obviously thought this was an out-and-out sitcom (it isn't), while the whole thing is so ersatz and cliché-ridden it's hard to give a damn whether the planes return from Germany or not. Not their finest hour.

Clichés, clichés, clichés. Thriller writers have to be more aware of them than most, and Hossein Amini's Deep Secrets (Sat BBC1) isn't immune to the better class of cliche, in fact, you could argue that his entire forget, Beckett the writer. plot (a policeman goes undercover to turn mobster's wife into a prosecution witness, falling in love with her in the process) is one whomer of a click A minimum. in the process) is one whopper of a cliché. Amini tells a good story, though, assisted by a choice cast - includ - Ruby at her best and worst. At her best, she's a bulling Colin Salmon, and Guy Pierre Mineur as a hit man to make Pulp Fiction's Samuel L Jackson look like a caring sharing kind of bloke. But the women have the best roles here, and we get the actresses to fill them: to prison and about the sort of reception she's likely. Ann Mitchell (Dolly Rawlins in Widows), the ageing-well Amanda Donohoe, as the femme fatale of the her job if she can't offend some of us some of the time.

piece, and a lively new presence (to me, at least) in Sophie Okonedo.

Bookmark (Sat/Sun BBC2) continues its vintage eason with Sean O'Mordha's two-part biography of Samuel Beckett, reclaiming the great Irish writer from those chilly black-and-white Jane Brown photographs that showed him as part eagle, part ascetic saint. This is Beckett the boy - a good athlete, a loving son - a young man in Paris, London and Dublin; Beckett in love, Beckett winning the croix de guerre for unnamed acts of bravery in the French Resistance. And, lest we

convicted Hollywood madame - but it does show up dozing celebrity interviewer who pummels her subjects into candour. At worst, she's cruel, gleefully reminding Fleiss several times that's she's about to go to meet there. But then maybe Wax just isn't doing



The big race Oxford v Cambridge Sat 3.30om BBC1

What is it about a race between two university boat crews over a twisting four-and-a-quarter-mile stretch of the Thames that has so captured the public Imagination over the past 142 years? By the next day, no one can ever remember who won it, but while it is happening the Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge universities ignites unwonted passions. Those who perhaps struggled with GCSEs suddenly take on a fervent allegiance to one or other of the ancient seats of learning. Tradition is a funny thing.

Saturday television and radio

BBC₁

7.25 News; Weather (1776099). 7.30 Children's BBC: Iznogoud. 7.45 Willy Fog. 8.10 The Raccoons. 8.35 Addams Family. 9.00 Live

and Kicking.

12.12 Weather (6114273).

12.15 Grandstand. Introduced by Steve Rider. 12.20 Football Focus. 1.00 News. 1.05 Canoeing. Britain's Olympic qualifying competition in the cance statom, held on the River Tay. 1.25 Racing from Haydock: 1.30 BNFL Inside Stories Conditions Stakes, 1.40 Boat Race Preview, 1.55 Racing from Haydock: 2.00 BNFL Medlock Links Handicap Stakes. 2.10 Women's Boat Race: last Sunday's race at Henley. 2.20 Boat Race Toss. 2.25 Racing from Haydock: 2.30 BNFL 25th Anniversary Field Marshal Stakes. 2.40 Boats Launched, 3.30 See The Big Race. The University Boat Race: Live coverage. 4.10 Motorcycling: Action from the first two rounds of the Motor Cycle News British Superbike Championship from Donington Park. 4.30 Motor Sport: A look ahead to this season's RAC Auto Trader British Touring Car Championship. 4.40 Final Score (S) (47048032). 5.15 News; Weather (1216099). 1

5.25 Regional News and Weather (1155273). 5.30 Tom and Jerry (396525). 5.45 Children in Need Reports Back (668254). 5.55 Big Break (S) (856322).

6.25 The New Adventures of Superman. A woman claims she gave birth to Superman's baby (S) (299490).

7.15 Confessions. Oh dear – they recommissioned this. Oh well... Coronation Street actor Peter Baldwin pays a visit to the Simon Mayo-led entertainment show (S) (305070). * 7.50 The National Lottery Live. Former Madness front

man Suggs gets the balls spinning (S) (109167). 8.05 Bugs. Return of the agreeably jaunty hi-tech crimefighters drama starring Craig McLachlan,
Jaye Griffiths and Jesse Birdsall (\$) (194612). * 8.55 News and Sport; Weather (Followed by National Lottery Update) (958780). *

9.15 Deep Secrets. See Preview (S) (9323693). * 10.40 Match of the Day. Newcastle United v Queens Park Rangers is the main event (S) (2288099). r Think it's All Over Comedy sports quiz from last Tuesday. Kriss Akabusi and John Gordon

Sinclair were the guests (R) (S) (631934). 12.15 The Road to Golgotha (S) (5416533). 12.30 TREE Rude Awakening (Aaron Russo/David Greenwalt 1989 US). Eric Roberts and Cheech (Cheech and Chong) Marin play two hippies who have been living in a South American commune since the 1960s. Returning to yuppified Eighties New York, they get an inevitable and not very well developed cornedic shock (538939).

2.05 Weather (5980007). To 2.10am. REGIONS. Wates: 11.45pm Squash. 12.15 They Think It's All Over. 12.45 The Road to Golgotha. 1.00 Film: Rude Awakening, 2.35 Weather,

BBC 2

7.35 Gian Christopher Strong (Dorothy Arzner 1933 US). Aviatrix Katherine Hepburn – In an early role alternating riding breeches and silver lame - falls in love with married politician Colin Clive (3542457). Press for Time (Robert Asher 1966 UK). Four Norman Wisdoms for the price of one, as our

hero crops up in a quartet of guises (11160821). 10.30 (a) The Early Bird (Robert Asher 1965 UK). Norman Wisdom plays a milkman whose livelihood is under threat from a large conglomerate (94937728).

12.05 Untold Stories: The Search for Amelia Earhart.
Who vanished in July 1937 while attempting the first solo flight around the world by a woman (1890983).

12.55 They Died with Their Boots On (Raoul Walsh 1941 US) Rousing if not entirely true portrait of General George Custer, from his early days at West Point, through the Civil War and the famous Last Stand at Little Big Horn in 1876, Starring Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland and Arthur Kennedy

Dodge City (Michael Curtiz 1939 US). Emcl Flynn again, taming the West and Olivia de Havilland in the film which was apparently the main inspiration for Mel Brooks' Blazing Saddles (63532815).

Argentinian Grand Prix. Live coverage of the qualifying session for tomorrow's Argentinian Grand Prix in Buenos Aires (S) (9762235). TOTP2 Easter Special (S) (833032).

What the Papers Say. New series. Jay Rayner of the Mail on Sunday looks back at the events of the week as reported in the press (S) (821457). News and Sport; Weather (819612). *
Bookmark. See Preview (S) (403051). *
Les Miserables in Concert. An ensemble of over

200 singers gather at the Royal Albert Hall to celebrate the 10th birthday of this long-running musical (R) (S) (28158438).

10.35 Court TV. Money and broken relationships as a married couple fights over the ownership of the multi-million dollar company which they ran jointly (925506) *

(David Lynch 1990 LIK) Lynch's most mainstream movie to date, vividly evoking Victorian London and creating a moving story about John Merrick, who was born with a disfiguring disease, abandoned by his parents and exhibited as a freak until taken in by a compassionate London surgeon. John Hurt, Anthony Hopkins, Anne Bancroft, John Gielgud, Wendy Hiller and (memorably) Freddie Jones (Followed by Weatherview) (28045344). *
Later with Jools Holland. Paul Weller performs with help from vocalists Carleen Anderson and

Jhelisa. Plus, Supergrass, Scott Walker, Senegalese singer Baaba Maal, the Vulgar Boatmen and Joan Armatrading (S) (1947649). To 2.30am.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV 6.00 News; Weather. 6.10 Eat Your Words: children's quiz. 6,40 Barney and Friends; double episode. 7.45 Disney's Wild Easter. 8.55 Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (4959524).

9,25 Teleganticmegavision. Behind the scene on the new TV version of Gulliver's Travels. Plus Cobra

and Falcon from Gladiators (S) (8940322).

10.25 Spatz (R) (6189612).

10.55 It's Not Just Saturday With Grange Hill star Martino Lazzeriand music from Longpigs and the Gin Biossoms (S) (9387761). 11.30 The Chart Show (R) (S) (59326).

12.30 Speakeasy. TV problem page for young people. Catherine Zeta-Jones talks about her temper tantrums (R) (S) (59877). 1.00 News, Weather (16866032). * 1.05 Local News, Weather (16898631). *

1.10 Movies, Games and Videos (5240148). 1.45 Cartoon Time (51682186). 1.50 The Making of Broken Arrow. Behind-the-scenes plug for the new John Travolta/Christian Slater

movie (4183457).
2.25 The Magnificent Seven (John Sturges 1960 US), Kurosawa's The Seven Samurai transposed to Wild West Mexico, and catching some good names early on in their careers, including Steve McQueen. Charles Bronson, Robert Vaughn and James Coburn (91031709).

4.45 News; Sport; Weather (8620506). * 5.05 London Tonight and Sport (8457902). *
5.25 Batman. That Penguin again (8444438).
5.45 Catchphrase (S) (748728). * 6.15 Barrymore (S) (790341). *

7.15 The Shane Richie Experience (Including Lottery Result) (S) (415896). * 8.05 Stars in Their Eyes. People impersonate Van Morrison, Gene Pitney and Dinah Washington. The real Matthew Kelly, one assumes, is the host (S)

(105728). * News; National Lottery Update; Weathe (Followed by Local Weather) (960525). *
9.05 The Governor Janet McTeer's prison governor is reinstated in the Lynda La Plante drama series (S)

(315524). 10.05 Pretty Woman (Garry Marshall 1990 US). heart Julia Roberts to escort him while dining the business opposition and ends up falling in love with her in a generally amusing, only occasionally emetic comedy reworking of Pygmalion (S) (30762964).

12.15 Pyjama Party With guests Tori Amos and comic Charlie Chuck (S) (388649). Funny Business. With Lee Evans (S) (2241200).

Tropical Heat (R) (S) (7418026). 3.00 E! News Review (6972705). 3.50 God's Gift (R) (2224303).

4.40 ITV Sports Classics II (47888007). 5.05 Coach (S) (2130484).

5.30 News (49007). To 6.00am.

Channel 4

6.10 Sesame Street (R) (6690457).

7.05 Little Dracula (R) (6761490).
7.30 Super Mario Brothers (R) (75902).
8.00 Trans World Sport (69525). 9.00 The Morning Line. The day's riags (S) (61896).
10.00 The Greatest. Mary Rand and Ian Botham are given their ranking (R) (S) (15032). *
10.30 NBA 24/7. Basketball (S) (38896).
11.00 Gazetta Football Italia (51322).

12.00 Sign On (S) (29148).

12.30 The Great Maratha (3013780).
12.35 Figs. The Student Prince (Richard Thorpe 1954
US). MGM musical version of Sigmund Romberg's operetta starring Edmund Purdom (whose songs are sung by Mario Lanza) as a Ruritanian prince who falls for barmaid Ann Blyth (96220815).

2.55 Channel 4 Racing from Kempton Park. Derek Thompson introduces the 3.15 Masaka Stakes, the 3.45 Queen's Prize (H'cap), the 4.15 Easter Stakes, and the 4.45 Middlesex H'cap Stakes (S) (89205438).

Brookside Omnibus (R) (S) (3837235). * 6.30 News Summary, Weather (342525). 6.35 All Creatures Great and Small (Claude Watham 1974 UK). Screen prequel to the novels of James Herriott, starring Simon Ward as the young vet, Lisa Harrow and Anthony Hopkins as Siegfried (69875322), * 8.15 TEM Aces High (Jack Gold 1976 UK). RC

Shemiff's World War One play Journey's End transposed from the trenches to the air - and to spectacular effect. Malcolm McDowell is the commander of a Royal Flying Corps squadron in France in 1917 who is being tom apart by the stress of command. Christopher Plummer, Peter Firth, Simon Ward, John Gielgud, Ray Milland, and Richard Johnson support (49423235). *

10.20 Drop the Dead Donkey. From the first series of (R) (S) (604341). * 10.55 Blue Light Zone: The Witch Hunters. From Northern Transvaal, where over 98 per cent of the population still believe in witchcraft. The presence of related violent crimes is so great that a special

Witchcraft Unit has been set up by the South African Police Force (S) (935032). *

episode from the ground-breaking Steven Bochoo Boston-based cop show (R) (733612). * 12.25 The Mortuary Man. The work of the Chief Mortuary Officer at Edinburgh's City Mortuary.

shouldn't order that take away just yet (1886939).

12.55 The Parrot May Have the Answer. The bizarre murder of Jane Gill in which the only eye witness was her pet parrot (R) (S) (5050281).

 White Jazz. Dramatised documentary on American crime writer James Ellroy (R) (S) (8488552).
 2.25 The Late Edwina Black (Maurice Elvey 1951 UK). Victorian whodunnit starring David Farrar and Geraldine Fitzgerald as lovers suspected of poisoning Farrar's wife (5030571). To 3.45am.

ITV/Regions

ANGLIA
As London except: 1,2,30pm Movies, Games and Videos (59877). 1.10 Anglia Sport Special (67824815), 2,55 seaQuest: DSV (8649728). 3,50 RoboCop (9307544), 5,20 Batmon (1431728). 12,15em Live from the Ulydrome (5638755). 1,10em Pyjama Party (6390991). 2,35em Furny Business (4892804). 3,00em American Gadrators (5354804). 3,45em Film: The Golden Disc (6105026). 5,00-5,30em Wanted Dead or Alive (54026).

TYPE TEES/KIRKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (59877). 1.10 Sturtmasters (3711544). 2.00 Cartoon (59877). 1.10 Sturtmasses (3711349, 200 Cardat Time (73933506), 2.05 Film: Jane and the Lost Chy (575273). 3.45 Airwolf (265070). 5.20 Satman (1431728). 12.15cm Film: The Lookalie (926910). 1.50am Funny Business (2239465). 2.20am Pyjama Parly (5024910). 3.45am The War of the Worlds (2136194). 4.35-5.30am Cue the Music (8189842).

CENTRAL
As London except: 12.30pm Heartland (59877). 1.40
The Munsters Today (69577341). 2.05 Dafly Duck's Easter Egg-Clientert (54968235). 2.30 RoboCop (6631709).
3.20 Airwolf (70545-4). 4.15 The Miclas Touch (743273).5.20 Batman (1431728). 4.40am Joblinder (8195007). 5.20-5.30am Asian Eye (1386026).

HIV
As London except: 12.30pm West: The Munsters Today (59877). Wales: Onstage Backstage (59877). 1.10
West: House (5240148). Wales: Roadrumer (79467709).
1.40 Wales: Cartoon Time (51674167). 1.50 Heti and
High Wales: the Making of Cutthroat Island (44882506).
2.15 Movies, Games and Videos (217273). 2.45 RoboCop (276186). 3.45 Airwolf (265070). 5.20 Batman (143179). 31 [Bert July 18 (1431728), 12.15am Lie from the Lilychome (5638755). 1.10am Pyjama Party (6390991), 2.35am Funny Business (4892804), 3.00am American Gladianos (5354804). 3.45am Film: The Golden Disc (6105026), 5.00-5.30am Wanted Dead or Alive (54026).

As Landon except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (59877). 1.10 World of Wonder (79467709). 1.40 Warner er Cartoon (94776070). 1.55 Father Dowling Myster-ies (6919506). 2.55 Airwolf (8649728). 3.50 RoboCop iss (69/3500). 2:55 Anwar (349/20). 3:30 roboto-(9307544). 5:20 Batman (1431/728). 12.15am Live from the Lilydrome (5638/755). 1.10am Pyjama Party (6390991). 2:35am Furny Business (4892804). 3.00am American (Gadators (69/2705). 3:50am Films The Golden Disc (8/84/769). 5:00-5:30am Freescreen

As London except: 12.30cm Movies, Games and Videos (59877). 1.10 Film: Prince of Bel Air (67824815). 2.55 Knight Rider (8649728). 3.50 Airwalf (9307544). 5.20 hagin roles (1695/26). 3.20 Water (1495/734). 3.20 Bahman (1431728). 12.15am Live from the Litydrome (5638755). 1.10am Pyjama Party (6390991). 2.35am Furny Business (4892804). 3.00am American Gladiators (5354804). 3.45am Film: The Golden Disc. (6105026). 5.00-5.30am Wanted Dead or Affective (6105026).

S4G As C4 except: 11.00am The Averages (51322), 12.30 Board Stupid (30).3780), 6.30 Hollyoaks (983), 7.00 Newyddion (41,2983), 7.15 Halen Yn Y Gwaed (794167), 8.15 Hei Strason (785083), 8.45 Dilyn Ddoe: Coffa Langyndeym (136524), 9.15-10.55pm Film: The Dressmaker (93033934).

Radio

Radio 1 (97 6-99.8MHz FNI) 7.00am Kevin Greening 10.00 Dave Pearce 12.30 Danny Baker 2.30 Jo Whiley 5.00 John Peel 7.00 Lovegroove Dance Party with Danny Rampling 9.00 Radio 1 Rap Show 12.00 Essential Mix: Angel Moraes 2.00 Annie Nightingale's Chill Out Zone 4.00-7.00am Charlie Jordan

Radio 2 (88-90 24Hz RA) 6.00am Mo Dutta 8.05 Brian Matthew 10.00 Steve Wright's Saturday Show 1.00 Laughter USA 1.30 The News Huddlines 2.00 Judi Spiers 4.00 Nick Barraclough 5.00 Nancy Griffith Presents Musical Voices of Friends 6.00 Richie Havens 7.00 Legends of Light Music 7.30 The Greatest Hits from the Musicals 9.30 David Jacobs 10.00 Sheri-dan Morley 12.05 Charles Nove 4.00-7.00am Mo Dutta

Radio 3 (90.2-92.4Mbg RA)
7.00am Record Review. With Anthony Burton.

9.00 Building a Library. Richard Osborne compares available re-leases of Mozart's Symphony No 29 In A, K201. 10.15 Record Release. Busnois: Josquin: O virgo prudentissi-ma. Gibbons: A selection of ntasias. Tallis: Lamenta

12.00 Private Passions, Michael Berkeley talks to the distin-guished broadcaster and anthropologist David Attenborough about his musi-cal choices. See Choice 1.00 News; Vintage Years. Lord

Menuhin, in conversation with Lyndon Jenkins, looks back ver his work as chamber mu sic player and conducto. (2/2). 3.00 The Music Machine Megamix. Tommy Pearson ex plores music for woodwind th Albion Wind. (2/8). 4.00 Edward Gregson. A concert given to mark the 50th birth-

given to mark the both blud-day of Edward Gregson. Greg-son; Suite: The Sword and the Crown; Metamorphoses; Missa brevis pacem. 5.00 Jazz Record Requests. 5.45 Music Matters, Ivan Hewett celebrates Easter with a spe-5.30 York Plano Trio. Bridge: Phantasy trio in C minor.

Choice

David Attenborough (left) stays put for once, sharing with Michael Berkeley his musical Private Passions (12noon R3); and Robert Elms goes a-roving, asking what makes some parts of the world fashionable and searching for useful tips for the impoverished holidaymaker, in The

Dvorak: Piano Trio No 3 in F minor. 7.30 Live from the Met: the Voyage. Philip Glass's space-age celebration of the spirit of dis covery and exploration, which was commissioned by the New York Metropolitan Opera for the 500th of Columbus's voyage to the New World. Prologue; Act 1. (8.25-8.55 The State of the Art. Joanne Watson talks to directors of opera compani from across America about the current state of opera in the US.) Act 2. (9.35-10.05 The

Met Opera Quiz. Edward Downes tests the operatic wits of Stuart Hamilton, Speight Jenkins and Susan Webb.) Act 3; Epilogue, 10.55 Studio 3: Alone at Last. A man stumbles into a radio stu-dio and confesses to the listen-er that he has committed a

by Nigel Charnock, 11.25-1.00am London Commu-nity Gospel Choir. Introduced by Alyn Shipton. Radio 4 02.4-94 BMz FM; 198Mz IW) 6.00am News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today, 6.50 Prayer for the Day. 6.55 Weather. 7.00 Today. 8.58 Weather. 9.00 News.

9.05 Sport on 4, 9.30 Breakaway 9.30 Breakaway, 10.00 News; Loose Ends. 11.00 News; Week in Westmin-11.30 Asia File. A Malaysian journalist speaks out against the Bakun Dam, the biggest hydro-electric power project in South East Asia. (3/6). 12.00 Paul Allen Reports from

Travellers' Souk (10.15pm R4).

12.25 The News Quiz. A satirical trawl through the headlines as Barry Took quizzes Alan Coren, Nick Clarke. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 News

1.00 News.
1.10 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby's guests in New Milton, Hampshire, are Tony Banks MP. Foreign Office minister Sir Nicholas Bonsor MP. Emma Nicholson, Liberal Democrat MP, and Sue Silpman, disease of the London TEC. director of the London TEC

4.00 News; Working History. 4.30 Science Now. crime. Written and performed

> Written by Barry Atkins, Will Buckley, Nick Hildred and Buckey, veck mildred and David Spicer. (1/3). 6.50 Utopia and Other Destinations. Michael O'Donnell talks to Jonathon Porritt. (3/6). 7.20 Kaleidoscope Feature.

9.50 Ten to Ten. 9.59 Weather, 10.00 News, the Tap End. With singer Della Jones, writer Frances Fyfield and designer Stephen Bayley.

(693, 909ldtz MM) Francis Wheen, Steve Punt and

Council.
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Any Answers?
2.30 Saturday Playhouse: Moths.
A tale of romance and high society in 19th-century Europe, based on the novel by Ouida.

5.00 File on 4. 5.40 Letters from Round About. The Moors. (3/4).
5.50 Shipping Forecast.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 S.v. O'Clock News.
6.25 Mammon. Satirical comedy.

7.20 nateroscope resure. 7.50 Sahufay Night Theatre: A Pocket Full of Rye. An Agatha Christie mystery in which a children's nursery rhyme ap-pears to hold the clues to a series of gruesome murders.

9.20 Music in Mind,

10.15 The Travellers' Souk, See 10.45 The Champions. (1/6). 11.00 Comparing Notes with Brian Kay.

11.30 Dead Man's Ransom, by
Ellis Peters, Hostage, Civil war
is raging beyond the walls of the Benedictine abbey in 1141. Only something truly extraordinary could draw Cadfael onto the battlefield. (1/5).

12.30 The Late Story: Slow Re-lease by David Self. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.50 Bells on Sunday. 5.55-6.00am (FM) The Radio **4UK Theme** 5.55-6.00am (LW) \$hipping Forecast.

Radio 5 6.05am Dirty Tackle 6.30 The Breakfast Programme 9.05 Week end with Kershaw and Whittaker

11.05 Too Gear 11.35 Crime Desk 12.00 Midday Edition 12.15 Sportscall 1.05 Sport on Five 6.06 Six-O-Six 8.05 The Treatment 9.05 Clear the Air 9.35 Dailyn on Saturday 10.35 Asian Perspect 11.00 Night Extra 12.05 Night Talk 2.00 Up All Night 5.00-Classic FM

(100 - 101 SMkr N0
7.00am Classic FM Hell of Fame.
The chart of AU Time Classic
Greats as voted by Classic FM, listeners. Presented by Sarah Lucas,
Richard Baker, Alan Mann and Richard Baker, Alan Mann and Nick Bailey. 7.00 The World Opera Season. Saint-Saens: Sam-son and Delilah. From the Opera Bastille, Paris. With Plackdo Domingo and Waltraud Meier. 10.00 Stx of the Best. 12.00 Mei Cooper, 4.00 Classic Travel Guide, 5.00-6.00am Michael

Virgin Radio (1215, 1)97-1260Mz 109 105.8Mz FM (1215, 1/197-1200bit www 108.8mb He)
6.00am Janey Lee Grace 8.00
Russ & Jono's Greatest Hits
10.00 Richard Skinner 2.00
Mark Forrest (including Virgin
Crunchie Album Chart) 6.00
Mitch Johnson 10.00 Robin
Banks 2.00-6.00am Howard

World Service (1986k (M) 1.00 New America 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 People and Politics 3,00 Newsday 3,30 Music Review 4.00 World News 4,15 Sports Roundup 4,30 Fourth Estate 4,45 Write On 4,55 Pop Short 5,00 Newsdask 5,30 Short Story 5.45-6.00am On the Move

Satellite

7.00am Undun (790326). 10.00 Ghoul-lashed (19273). 12.00 World Wrestling Federation Mania (89032). 1.00 The Hit Mlx (98780). 2.00 The Adventures of Brisco County Junior (76167), 3.00 One West Welkiki (75187). 3.00 CHE YES, WAININ (54849). 4.00 Kung Fu, The Legend Continues (14254). 5.00 Mysterious Island (2506). 6.00 World Wrestling Federation Superstars (18544). 7.00 Silders (59815). 8.00 Unsolved Mysteries (35235). 9.00 Cops I (10438). 9.30 Cops II (80761). 10.00 Dream On (73983). 10.30 Revelations (82631). 11.00 The Movie Show (15983). 11.30 Foreve Knight (95051). 12.30 WKRP in Cincinnati (48858). 1.00 Saturday Night Live (22026). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix Long Play (3501020).

SKY MOVIES 6.10am The Girl Most Likely (1957) (19845544). 8.00 The Big Sky (1952) (67419). 10.00 Hot Shots! Part Deux (1993) (3641). 12.00 The Poseidon Adventure (1972) (73070). 2.00 Six Pack (1982) (846273). 3.45 The Sandlot (1993) (155693). 5.30 Live and Let Die (1973) (951983). 8.00 Hot Shots! Part Deux (1993). Comedy sequistarring Charlie Sheen and Lloyd Bridges. Young commando Topper Harley is sent to rescue hostages held in the Middle East. (31419). 10.00

Fathers and Sons (1992). Dram starring Jeff Goldblum and Rory Cochrane. Flim director Max must. Cochrane. Film director Max must face up to his drinking problem when his wife suddenly dies. As he contemplates his once-rackless life, he realises he hardly knows his teerlage son, who is developing a drug addiction of his own (956099). 12.40 Strike a Pose (1993). Thriller starring Robert Eastwick and Milchelle Lamothe. A Los Angeles police defective and a fron Los Angeles police detective and a top fashion photographer find themselves pursued by a deadly toller (465964). 1.10 Hard Evidence (1994) (2432842). 2.40 The Favor (1994) MOVE CHANNEL

6.00am The Magic Bubble (1992) (61070). 8.00 Jamaica Run (1953) (58761). 10.00 Buck Privates (1941) (36493), 12.00 Two Much Trouble (1994) (71612), 2.00 Inno-cent Moves (1993) (30780), 4.00 Little Miss Millions (1992) (8780). Little Miss Millions (1992) (8780).
6.00 Bandit's Silver Angel (1994).
Action-comedy starring Brian Bloom and Bnan Krause. Bandit's Uncle Syrus encourages him to take part in the forthcoming carinival, But his plans are folled by the re-appearance of the local sherift, who is determined

to bring him to justice (50544). 8.00 Demolition Man. Action thriller starring Sylvester Stallone, Wesley Snipes and Sandra Bullock, Cryogenically frozen cop John Spartan is defrosted in the year 2032 only to discover that his nemesis - psycho-pathic criminal Simon Phoenix - is

still at large (1993) (22761). 10.00 Speed (1994). Action thriller starring Keanu Reeves and Sandra Bullock. LAPO cop Jack Traven manages to foil a deadly plot by psychopath Howard Payne (Dennis Hopper). But now Payne has a score to settle, and Jack soon receives a call informing him that a bus in the city has been rigged to explode it its speed drops below 50 miles per hour (414051), 11.50 Deep Red (1994). Thriller starring Michael Biehn and Joanna Pacula Bodyguard Joe Keyes is hiked to track down a missing scientist (599761). 1.25 Speed (1994) (362484).

(1992) (41318026). SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00pm Demetrius and the Gladia-tors (1954) (2780), 6.00 Adam's Rib (1949), Comedy starring Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy. Two married lawyers oppose each other over a crime of passion (34544), 8.00 Doctor Detroit (1983). Comedy starting Dan Aykroyd and Donna Dixon. A well-meaning college professor finds himself unintentionally entangled with a group of hookers and the local mafta (72231). 10.00 F/X — Murder by Illusion (1986). Thriller starring Bryan Brown and Brian Denneby, Rollie Tyler, a special effects wizard, is hired by a Government Witness Relocation

enument withous reductions and a Maria into meet a lake assassina-tion of a Maria Informer. However, things aren't quite what they seem (338167), 11.55 Death Wish 2 (338167), 11.55 Death Wish 2 (1982). Action tivilies starring Charles Bronson and Jill Ireland, Urban vigilante Paul Kersey takes to the streets of LA when his daughter is raped and murdered by a brutal street gang (273186), 1.35 The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) (943668), 3.15-4.35am The Devil is a Woman (1935) (7442823). (1935) (7442823). UK BOLD

7.00am Give Us A Clue (1293506). 7.30 Going for Gold (9383902). 7.55 The Sullivers Omnibus (81631525). 10.00 Bergerac (1201525). 11.00 Match of the Day (1281761), 12.00 Neighbours, Omnibus (25913761), 2,15 East-Enders Omnibus (46529877), 5.00 Till Death Us Do Part (5992728). 5.35 Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin (9009235). 6.15 Comrade Dad

(9290419). 6,50 It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (6803047). 7.25 The Upchat Connection (2840544), 7.55 nd (7490631). 8.30 Colditz (45610902). 9.35 Tenko (65542542). 10.40 Danger UXB (46671070). 11.45 Film: Alligator

SAY SPORTS

7.00am World Sport Special (29761), 7.30 Asian Golf Show (93964), 8.30 Racing News (46964), 9.00 Super League (21631), 11.00 Roller Hockey (57544), 12.00 Sports Saturday 15/544). 12.00 Sports Saturday (91490). 2.00 Rugby Union (90653728). 4.15 Sports Saturday (62320254). 6.00 Trans World Sport (86070). 7.00 Snooker (2841780). 11.00 International Crice(1596362). 1.30-3.30am Rug-lad Internation (25281) by Update (25281).

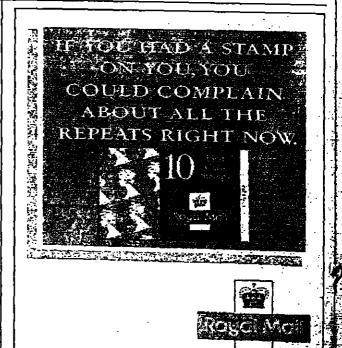
(9580099). 1.35 Public Eye

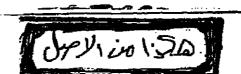
(3789281). 2.30-4.00am Shop-

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Soccer AM (5928235). 11.00 World Wrestling Federation Raw (33968/5). 12.00 Snooker (9777235). 5.00 Inside the Senior PGA Tour (4419167). 5.30 Powerboat World (5942877). 6.00 Davis Cup Tennis (4824032). 9.00 US PGA Golf (8916186). 12.00 World Sport Special (2841620), 12,30-1.00am World of Speed and Beauty (7953129).

LIVETY

6.30am Home Shopping, 7.00 Fate and Fortune, 7.30 The Why Files? 8.00 425, 9.00 Mind and Body. 9.30 Weigh to Go. 10.00 The Fashion Show, 10_30 Spanish Archer. 11.00 Showblz. 12.00 Canary Wharf Omnibus, 1,30 The Fashion Show, 2,00 War, 3,00 Sport. 5.00 Weigh to Go. 5.30 The Fashion Show. 6.00 Video Box. 6.30 Spanish Archer. 7.00 425. 8.00 Showbiz. 9.00 Fate and Fortune. 9.30 The Why Flies? 10.00 Welnd Night. 10.30 The Fashion Show, 11.00 Topless Darts, 11.04 Spanish Archer. 11.30 Stand Up. 12.00 The Sex Show. 12.30 Weird Night 1.00 Home Shopping 1.30 Spanish Archer. 2.00 Fish Tank. 3.00 Showbiz. 4.00 Fate and Fortune. 4.30 The Why Files? 5.00 Video Box 5.30-6.00am The Fash-





TO I

TOLET

Russians turn draft-dodging into a fine art

HELEN WOMACK

Back in Soviet times, Boris P

was a master of evading military service. He never slit his wrists or feigned mental illness like his friends. His trick was beautiful in its simplicity.
"When the call-up papers

arrived, I would leave town for a while," he said. "Eventually I would return and go to the recruiting office, because not to do so was illegal. But I always made sure I was a bit late. This gave time for the eager idiots to get in before me. The officers would fill up their quota and tell me to come back next season. I played this game for nine years until I got too old for the army."

It is a game the youths of Russia can no longer play, for the country has run out of

eager idiots. With the war still raging in Chechnya, despite President Boris Yeltsin's peace initiative, few families want their sons to serve the Motherland.

The army is desperate for conscripts and has tightened the criteria over exemption from military service. The new policy goes against the goal Mr Yeltsin once had of moving towards a professional army and it defies the Council of Europe, which expects its members, now including Russia, to offer con-scientious objectors alternative

forms of service to society.

Thousands of middle-ranking officers are deeply unhappy about the state of the army. It is not crude nationalism many of them want but more democracy. Thanks to one disgruntled colonel, the *Independent* gained rare access to a recruiting centre. Normally such a visit would be arranged through the Ministry of Defence, but he let me

in to observe the spring draft. "For God's sake don't quote me," he kept saying, as he ques-tioned the point of Russia starting the war in Chechnya and complained about the lack of reform in the forces. "I'll be in trouble if you name me," he said again, as he lamented the shortage of funds to pay and house officers and admitted the military could not give cast-iron guarantees that conscripts would not die of starvation or bullying in their two years of service. (Such cases are periodically reported in the Russian press).

So I will call him Colonel Y and say only that the red-brick recruiting centre was situated in southern Moscow.

Down both sides of a long, gloomy corridor on the ground floor, young men were waiting for medical examinations, some sitting with their legs defiantly flung out, others with their heads in their hands in a state of despondency. A few cringed with embarrassment because their mothers had insisted on accompanying them.

"My Andrei's in there," wailed a woman called Gallina, pointing at a doctor's door. the hospital but the army still drags him down here. He'll be a bag of nerves after this."

Other youths looked on pityingly. "Of course I don't want to serve. What do you think I am, a patriot?" whispered Dennis, a 19-year-old shop worker with long golden locks. "But I'll accept what comes however it accept what comes, however it turns out."

When a youth reaches 17, his

nation's men. All are either liable for service, unfit for service or have already served and amed particular skills. The list is kept so the country knows what human resources it has in case of war.

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Stor is

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npen-

From the age of 18, the young man can expect to be called before a commission of officers, doctors and civilians who decide whether he will

serve. Call-up papers go out every spring and autumn. The commission will exempt the youth if he has a child under three years old or depen-dent elderly relatives. His service can be put off if he is in higher education. But if he does not take officer training at university and get into the reserve, he must still serve after he graduates and is liable up to the age of 27.

Young men may be exempted on medical grounds. This is where the contest of wits between the authorities and the younger generation begins.
"There are dozens of ways of

making yourself medically un-fit," says Boris P. "I know lads who have drunk cleaning fluid to give themselves stomach ulcers. The most popular way is to bribe a psychiatrist to certify you as mentally unstable. But that brings problems. If you get a white ticket [of exemption] on those grounds, you can't get a driving licence afterwards."

The army, faced with a 20per-cent shortfall in the ranks, is cracking down on tricks. Doctors' decisions must be confirmed by other doctors. The range of genuine ailments taken into consideration has been drastically narrowed. Hernia and "dropsy of the testicles" are no longer sufficient.

Apart from Chechnya, young men fear being posted to the Far East. Komsomolskaya Pravda this week reported the death of Mikhail Kubarsky who died from hunger while serving in Khaberovsk. Also unpopular is a posting to the Stroibat, the battalion which builds roads. The television programme Vremechko, arguing that service It's outrageous. He fell and hit amounts to slave labour, re-his head. He's got a letter from cently interviewed conscripts who worked as male prostitutes on the streets of Moscow to

make money for cigarettes. Colonel Y wants to see a professional army and would like the state Duma to pass a law on alternative service.

Next month, many of the youths in the corridor will be heading off in lorries. Whether they go to the Stroibat, the Far This is how the system works: East or Chechnya, the army promises to make men of them.

Chechen rebels inflict setback on Moscow

Moscow — Russian forces were yesterday reported to have suffered heavy losses in a new battle in Chechnya, which highlighted the difficulty of ending the war before June's presi-dential election as Boris Yeltsin had hoped to do, writes Helen Womack.

Military sources said 30 federal soldiers were killed and 67 wounded in fierce overnight fighting with Muslim separatist in the village of Goiskoye, 20 miles south of the capital Grozny. It was one of the heaviest death-tolls in a single battle this year.

Chechen guerrillas had shot down a Russian SU-25 fighter bomber over Goiskoye on Thursday, Tass news agency said, using a US-made hand-held ground-to-air Stinger mis-on Sunday announced a unisile. The pilot ejected and survived.

Russian troops attacked the separatists and believed they had cleared the village by Thursday evening. But the rebels opened fire again in the night and a Russian unit was forced to make a humiliating and costly withdrawal.

Fighting was also reported vesterday around the southeastern mountain town of Vedeno, a rebel stronghold. And the Russians were said to be again bombing the south-west-ern village of Shazhali, despite the local prosecutor's inquiry into why the settlement was attacked earlier this week after elders signed a peace agreement with federal forces.

Sunday staked his political fu-

ture on a peace plan announced on national television. The Kremlin leader, however, pressed on with a meet-the-people tour in the south Russian city of Belgorod, a stronghold of his communist opponents. Back in Moscow, another of Mr Yelt-sin's rivals, the extreme nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky officially registered himself for

the election on 16 June. The latest opinion poll showed the communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov, still in the lead with a predicted 21 per cent of the vote although Mr Yeltsin was closing on him with 19 per cent. Another poll showed that for 62 per cent of Russian voters, ending the war in Chech-

nya was the top priority.
With this in mind, Mr Yeltsin lateral halt to military operations and promised a partial troop withdrawal. He also appointed Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin as head of a new state commission charged with settling the conflict and offered to open talks with the Chechen separatist leader, General Dzhokhar Dudayev, through mediators.

Yesterday Mr Chernomyrdin was preparing to hold the first meeting of his commission.

There was no word from General Dudayev, whose fighters have poured scorn on Moscow's plan. But the head of Mr Yeltsin's working group on Chechnya, Emil Pain, was quoted in the Russian press yesterday as saying not all in General All this is disappointing news
for President Yeltsin who last

Dudayev's circle insisted on
full independence and some might be ready to bargain.



Italian women and allowing

them sexual freedom with the

working-class men whom ho-mosexuals had until then been

able to call their own. Pasolini

was no longer young, though his

increasing fame as a film-mak-

er and a writer made him an at-tractive target for both political and social enemies and sexual

The past was past, the present un-livable: he could not come to terms with it: death became the only solu-

with it death occame me binly soft-tion, ever since the first intimations of old age had begun to torment him. He could no longer find those days of old, in a decade become empty and

joyless, and Pasolini was now walk-ing in a desert without mirages.

These books are indeed

But Beilezza was also well

known as a poet, and in 1976 he

obtained the prestigious Viareg-

gio prize for Morte segreta.

Bellezza paraphrased Oscar

you -you do not know who said that you now far away whose memory assassinates me now, makes

self-slaughter whose will be the first, yours or mine?

These moving lines written

for someone he had loved and

lost, someone whose ignorance

and indifference drove him to

despair, come from the 1990

collection, Libro di Poesia. In

1994, he won the Montale prize

for poetry.
In the last weeks of his life,

he had provoked excited com-

ment in the press and among his

still-remaining, ever-dwindling

circle of literary friends, by in-

sisting that he be allowed to treat his Aids by testing a

bogus healing machine, "to

stimulate the lymphocytes",

wrongly claimed to halt the

After a hard fight, he won the

right to test it . . . without re-

sult. Then his friends tried to ob-

progress of the disease.

Love kills the thing it loves

and sick of everything:

memorable eulogies for a great

hangers-on.

Dario Bellezza

During the last few weeks, the

Italian press ran stories about one of their favourite Roman

celebrities, the poet, novelist and playwright Dario Bellezza.

He was born into the genial

chaos of post-war Italy, in a poor working-class family, and lived

for the entire 51 years of his tur-

bulent existence in the streets

of Rome. In his early twenties,

he started writing poetry and stories, a first collection of

which, Invettive e Licenziosite

("Curses and Caresses"), was

published by Garzanti in 1971.

He was outspokenly and aggressively homoerotic in his sexual orientation, both in his

writing and in his daily life. His

work naturally attracted the

attention, and the admiration,

of Pier Paolo Pasolini, who was

to be one of the many literary

figures supporting him. These

included the great poet, also ho-mosexual, Sandro Penna, the

novelist Alberto Moravia and

his wife Elsa Morante, about

whom he wrote a fine love-hate

poem, "Canzoniere per E.M."

was particularly close, and that old poet's poetic style, lucid and natural as breath, influenced his

own. Bellezza's first novel, Il

Camefice ("The Executioner".

1973) was a revelation to Pa-

solini, who detected in it a vio-

lent conflict of emotions that

resembled his own passionate

urge towards condemnation

and absolution. The two writers

wrote in the forthright poetic

prose of the lower classes and held up as heroes the working-

class men and boys so bril-

iantly portrayed in the

neo-realistic movies of the post-

Pasolini's assassination in

1975 by a teenage tough on a

dark stretch of beach at Ostia

haunted and obsessed Bellezza

for the rest of his life. In 1981,

he published his first revolu-

tionary work on his dead friend,

Morte di Pasolini, and the sec-

ond, Turbamento ("Distur-

war era.

His relationship with Penna

obituaries/gazette

Peter Baer

Peter Baer was an artist foremost; then a master printer who enabled other artists to make their best original lithographs; and latterly a teacher of all aspects of printmaking who inspired his students.

His background was from the intellectual German refugee influx in the late 1930s which has so enriched our culture. The Baer family arrived in London from Berlin in 1936, when Peter was 12 years old, and Hermann Baer soon established his well-known antique dealer's shop at 6 Davies Strect, Mayfair. I remember it well as a schoolchild for its amazing collection of wrought iron, holy relics, a large bear (the mascot), medieval wooden caskets and a large wooden carving of Christ on the ass in the window. Though the family was Jewish it was a cosmopolitan European culture which gave Hermann Baer his high reputation as a dealer. Before that the family business had been a successful emporium in Berlin selling reproduction furniture.

As happened with so many émigrés at the outbreak of the Second World War, the Baers were interned for six months and Peter's naturalisation was postponed until 1948. By that time he was a student at the Central School of Arts and Crafts and was supporting himself by various means, the most singular being as a gas lamplighter in the Lisson Grove area where some side streets were still gas-lit. He became an excellent professional draughtsman and photographer as well as devoting himself to listening to Miles Davis records.

In the Sixties he frequently visited Birgit Skiolds's Print Workshop in Charlotte Street. where he made etchings. She introduced Baer to Stanley Jones in 1959 when he and Timothy Simon founded the Curwen

Studio at the Curwen Press in Plaistow, east London, Jones re- and water, and has its own semembers: "During the crucial formative years of the Curwen Studio, he helped with its dayto-day running in a caring and competent way. He was very sympathetic in interpreting the work of fellow artists." He worked with a wide variety of artists such as Henry Moore. John Piper and Barbara Hep-

worth, as well as the less famous. In the beginning all the editions were hand-printed from stone and zinc plate. Later the studio moved to Midford Place,



Baer: no barriers with students

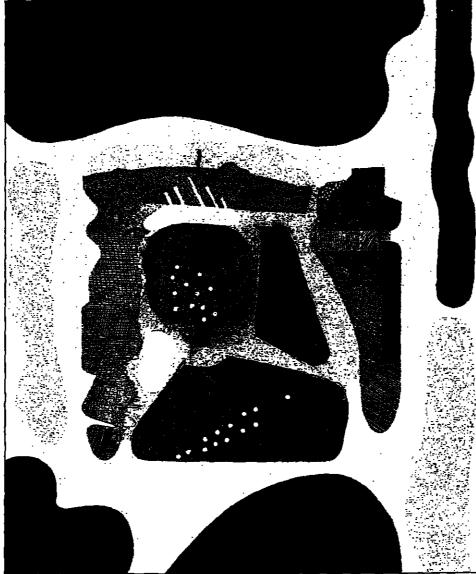
off Tottenham Court Road, where most of the editioning was done on a 1923 flat-bed lithographic press and Baer's role was happily confined to the most interesting part, that is working with artists and repeatedly proofing the image to realise the artist's intentions. Artists came from all over the world. Some were commissioned by Curwen Prints, some by international print publishers, and some were self-publishers or on fellowships. Many had no previous experience of lithography and needed initiation into what was called chemical printing when it was invented by Alois Senefelder 200 years ago. The technique re-

lies on the antipathy of grease crets and tricks: Baer was a master of this difficult medium.

In 1970 Baer started teaching printmaking at Hammersmith School of Art, which was later absorbed into Chelsea College of Art and Design, where he continued to teach until his retirement in 1989. He taught Mark Balakjian who is in his turn now passing on his knowledge to students as well as being a director of Studio Prints, the well-known intaglio editioning studio in London. Balakjian remembers: "He taught without a barrier between himself and the students, taking part in their development as an equal without asserting his own views, always actively par-ticipating in resolving their technical problems, always ready to help whenever help was needed and whoever by. For him all students were equal and it was not surprising that often he was affectionately thought of as a friend. Peter's technical knowledge, ideas and enthusiasm were all-inspiring."
In the Fifties Baer showed in

the Beaux Arts Gallery in Mayfair, when he was associated with the "Kitchen Sink School" of artists who adopted a realistic style of depicting everyday domestic life. Other artists were John Bratby and Derrick Greaves. Baer's later work, however, changed to something more abstract and colourful. He showed in the Amalgam Gallery in 1986, Agi Katz's Boundary Gallery in 1988, and is represented in the Ben Uri Gallery Collection. After retirement he taught at the Camden Institute and was able to

give more time to his own work. In his painting, he was a colourist verging on expressionism. The recent exhibition of Emil Nolde at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, in



Baer: his later prints were abstract and colourful, like Summer Madness, 1980 (etching and silks)

and again. Baer had been reassessing his own north German ness, and was on the brink of another burst of creativity.

His most productive printsecond marriage to Iris Collins embossing, describing the curve in 1968. Near his home in north of a road, a cloud or an allot-

Count Eigil Knuth

east London, drew him again London, he absorbed and transformed the urban landscape into a series of inventive etchroots and coming to terms with his own once-rejected Jewishmedia prints which are, I think, his best work. He used texture derived from metal pressings, wire and other found detritus making was done soon after his together with fluid shapes and

dependence Fiord and Dan-

marks Fjord. Dated to the last

two millennia BC, they provid-

ed a key to the archaeology of

Greenland, confirming that the

country was populated by mi-

gration from North America.

Knuth made one foray out-

side Greenland, to Thailand, in

1961. He joined a Thai-Danish

expedition to investigate the

country's almost unknown pre-

history. Otherwise, he remained

devoted to the Arctic. He was

an early exponent of the kind

of archaeology that is fused with

anthropology in order to use the present to offer clues to the past.

Knuth was an unfashionably in-

rincible admirer of Robert E.

Peary, the American explorer.

vigorously rejecting all the

Lively and idiosyncratic,

ment, which encapsulate so many residential settlements. A memorial exhibition will be held at the Ben Uri Gallery. Rosemary Simmons

Peter Baer, printmaker, born

Berlin 28 March 1924; married secondly 1968 Iris Collins (one son); died London 22 March

bance") in 1984. tain a state pension for Bellezza, In 1981, I was writing a series of documentary poems about the murder of Pasolini for my collection Ecce Homo: My Pasolini, and after reading Morte di Pasolini I wrote to Bellezza, who sent me in a series of letters valuable information about his own experience of this brutal and controversial homosexual tragedy. In that first book,

Photograph: AP

who was living in abject poverty. He made some last appearances on TV chat shows. But it was too late. He did not live on long enough to receive the first instalment of his pension.

James Kirkup

Dario Bellezza, poet, novelist, playwright: born Rome 5 September 1944, died Rome 31 March 1996.

Because of its centuries under Denmark (from 1721 to 1979 it was a colony), Greenland has always engrossed Danish polar explorers. Eigil Knuth was a distinguished member of their lar exploration. In fact, Knuth's company. He was the last Arctic explorer in the classic mould.

Count Eigil Knuth was born in Klampenborg, near Copenhagen, in 1903. Having completed his schooling, he first studied building technology at the Academy of Arts in Copenhagen but, possessing artistic talent, then learnt woodcarving in Val Gardena in Italy between 1926 and 1928. Meanwhile, in 1927, he published his first book, Kunst og Liv ("Art and Life"), in which he set out his philosophy. He revealed an affinity with the Danish philosopher Kierkegaard, and hence appeared as an early Existentialist. More to the point, he saw art as a flight back to Nature.

Knuth first went to Greenland in 1932, on an archaeological dig run by the Danish National Museum to excavate old Norse sites on the west coast of Greenland. To the Danes, the medieval Norse colonisation of Greenland, from the 11th century until its mysterious disappearance in the 15th century, has meant a peculiarly close historical link with their Arctic dependency; in any case, Knuth had begun a lifelong love affair with Greenland.

He was following in the foot-

steps of his hero, Fridtjof himself to archaeology, con-Nansen, the Norwegian polar explorer who, in 1888, made the first crossing of the Greenland ice-cap, and opened modern pomaternal grandfather, Augustin Gamei, a Danish businessman,

financed Nansen's expedition. In 1935, Knuth joined Augustine Courtauld's climbing expedition to east Greenland as archaeologist. Together with another Danish archaeologist, Knuth discovered and excavated an old Eskimo site in Irminger Fjord, and that gave him the direction of his life's work. Thenceforth, Eskimo life and

culture preoccupied his thoughts.
During the summer of 1936,
Knuth crossed the Greenland ice-cap west to east with the French Trans-Greenland Expedition under Paul-Emile Victor. Starting at Christianshaab, and ending at the Eskimo settlement of Angmagsalik, it was a trying journey of over 800km. but only a means to an end. It was the quickest way of reaching the destination.

Anthropology was the expedition's aim. Knuth set up a studio in Angmagsalik and there, in the ensuing winter, produced a series of busts of the local Eskimos. This was his main artistic production. Sensitive, lively. free of cloying romanticism. they captured the nature of the east Greenland Eskimos. Thereafter, Knuth devoted

he was a lifelong member. stantly returning to Greenland. Knuth was a link between the

During the Second World War, last generation of polar explorers who probed the last he was trapped in Denmark by blank spaces on the globe, and the German occupation. This interrupted his great work. the modern travellers left to invent new challenges and fill in In 1938, Knuth had begun the gaps. He saw the exploration leading a series of archaeologand surveying of Greenland comical expeditions to north-east Greenland. He resumed in pleted. He was an inspiration for 1947, continuing on and off unthe younger generation of Dantil 1973. The upshot was the dis-covery of two hitherto unknown ish explorers in Greenland. He published 12 books and prehistoric Eskimo cultures in the uninhabited environs of In-

various articles on aesthetics, archaeology and polar history. His feelings for Greenland were revealed in Aron of Kangek (1968), a book about the medieval Norse colonists and their enemies, the Skraelings, the ancestors of the modern Eskimos. Of Aron, a native Greenland Eskimo artist and writer of the last century who recorded his own story of Norsemen in Greenland, Knuth wrote:

Greenland publishes her counterpart to the sagas . . . concerning events during the Norse era – a living proof that the Skraelings remain the final victors in the struggle with the Norse-

Knuth ended one of his books: "The riddle of the Sphirtx has been solved!" Like many explorers, however, he remained a little Sphinx-like himself.

Reland Huntford

doubts over whether he really did attain the North Pole in Eigil Kruth, archaeologist, sculp-1909. This caused some distor and writer: born Klampenagreement with the Danish Geborg, Denmark 8 August 1903; dicd Copenhagen 12 March 1996. ographical Society, of which

Bellezza attempts to relive the drama on his own autobiographical terms, invoking both chance and destiny in its eluci-

dation as a "natural" death subconsciously always desired by his friend. He attacked the brutal sensational coverage of the death in the press, with its crude documentary reportages and pitiless photos of Pasolini's naked body. These "autobiographical bi-

ographies" were essentially extensions of Bellezza's earlier novels, Lettere da Sodoma (1972) and Angelo (1979). He revealed to me the social significance of Pasolini's death: the fact that for Pasolini the contraceptive pill was liberating

Margaret Read

Your sympathetic obituary of Margaret Read by Leonie Cohn [21 March] put me in mind of my first day as a young assistant at York Art Gallery in the aus-tere days of January 1953, writes John Jacob.

I was introduced to the volatile Lady Read (as she had just become). "Welcome to York," she said. "You mustn't

think we're provincial, Constantine was crowned here." And then in the same breath, "You must be wondering why Herbert accepted the knighthood (announced that morning]? It would have been like giving up the sweet ration!"

I have never since felt so much at the centre of the ancient and modern world.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

DEATHS

KING: Robert Brendan, aged 57, at Royal Free Hospital, London NW3, on 2 April 1996, after devastating but mercifully brief illness. Adored hus-band of Gillian and father of Laura, Thomas, Allan and Sandy, Partner in 1107. Lliffes, Booth Bennett Solicitors. Fu neral at Golders Green Crema neral at Golders Green Crematorium, on Friday 12 April at 2pm. All Friends and colleagues welcome there and af-terwards at his bome. Family flowers only, but donations in his memory to the Friends of the Royal Free Hos-pital, Pond Street. London NW3 2PN. Enquiries, telephone Leverton & Sons, Funeral Directors, 0171-387 6075.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5D1., telephoned to 0171-293 2011 or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at 56.50 a line IVAT extra). OTHER Gazette analysis of the Independent of 150 for Independent a me (VAL extra). Of the Cozette an nouncements indices. functions, Forth-coming marriages) must be submitted fur writing (or faxed) and are charged at £10 a time, VAT extra. A daytime tele-phone number should be attached.

Changing of the Guard TODAY: The Household Cavalry Mount-ed Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham; 1st Balplion Welsh Guards mounts the Oucen's Guard at Buckingham Palace, 11 Mars hand provided by the Soats Guards. TO-MORROW: The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Oucen's Life Guard at Borse Guards, tham: F Company Scots Guards mounts the Oucen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, hand provided by the Scots

Birthdays TODAY: Mr Franta Beisky, sculptor, 75; Sir Paul Beresford MP, 50; Mr

Knuth: a lifelong love affair with Greenland Photograph: Erlk Peters

Rodney Bickerstaffe, associate gen-eral secretary, UNISON, 51; Mr Rory Bremner, impressionist, 35; Mr John Brooke-Little. Clarenceux King of Arms, 69; Mr Ivan Callan, High Commissioner to Brunei, 53: Miss Anne Campbell MP, 56; Miss Joan Carlyle, soprano, 65; Mr Bernard Carter, painter and etcher. 76; Mr Anthony Chubb, former chairman, Foseco, 68; Mr Roger Cook, broadcaster and journalist, 53; Mr Paul Daniels, magician, 58; Admiral Sir Desmond Dreyer, 86; Mr Julian Faber, former chairman, Willis, Faber and Dumas, 79; Mr Willis Hall, writer, 67: Dr David Ingram, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Kent at Canterbury, 69; Sir John Knox, High Court judge, 71: Lord Moore of Wolvercote, former private secretary to the Queen, 75; The Rev Ian Paisley, MP and MEP, 70; Miss Felicity Palmer, mezzo-so-prano, 52: Mr André Previn, composer and conductor, 67: Mr Dudley Sutton, actor. 63: Mr Dilip Vengsarkar, cricketer, 40; Professor James D. Watson, geneticist and Nobel prizewinner, 68: Sir Marcus Worsley Bt. Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, 71.

TOMORROW: Mr Dennis Amiss cricketer, 53; Miss Angela Bonallack, golfer, 59; Miss Fredda Brilliant, sculptor, 88: Mr Francis Ford Coppola, film director and screenwriter. 57; Sir Geoffrey Cox, former chief ex-ecutive, ITN, 86; Mr Luca Cumani, race-horse trainer, 47; Professor Sir Graeme Davies, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Glasgow University, 59; Professor Donald Denman, land economist, 85; Mr Peter Fluck, pup-pet-maker and satirist, 55; Sir David Frost, television presenter, 57; Mr Frederick Garner, former chairman, Pearl Assurance, 76; Mr James Garner, actor, 68: Sir Terence Harrison.

chief executive, Rolls-Royce, 63; Vice Admiral Sir Arthur Hezlet, former submarine commander, 82; Mr Gorden Kaye, actor, 55; Mr Martyn Lewis, broadcaster, 51; Mr Cliff Morgan, former head of Outside Broadcasting, BBC Television, 66; Mr Ian Richardson, actor, 62; Mr Andrew Sachs, actor, 66; Mr Ravi Shankar, sitar player, 76; Group Captain Mary Shaw, former director and matron-in-chief, PMRAFNS, 63: Miss Alison Shrubsole, former principal, Homerton College, 71; Mr David J. Williams, chief constable, Surrey, 55; Sir Geoffrey Wilson, former chairman, the Race Relations Board, 86; Mr Mark Wolfson MP, 62

Anniversaries TODAY: Births: Jean-Baptiste

Rousseau, playwright and poet, 1671; Gustave Moreau, painter, 1826; René Lulique, jewellery designer, 1860; Harry Houdini (Erich Weiss). stage magician and escapist, 1874; Sir John Benjeman, poet, 1906. Deaths: Richard I (Coeur de Lion), King of England, killed in battle 1199; Albrecht Dürer, artist, 1528; Sir Fran-cis Walsingham, statesman, 1590; Igor Fyodorovich Stravinsky, comlgor Pyodorovich Stravnsky, com-poser, 1971. On this day: St Paul's Cathedral was badly damaged fol-lowing an earthquake tremor in London, 1580; George Washington was elected as first US president, 1789; the first modern Olympic Games were insumurated at Athens Games were inaugurated at Athens, 18%; on his seventh attempt, the American Robert Edwin Feary be-came the first man to reach the North Pole, 1909; Sir Anthony Eden became prime minister, 1955. Today is the Feast Day of St Celestine I, pope, St Eutychius of Constantinople, St Marcellinus of Carthage, St Prudentius of Troyes and St William of Eskilsoc. TOMORROW: Births: St Francis Xavier, Jesuit missionary, 1506; William Wordsworth, poet, 1770:

Daisy (Margaret Mary Julia) Ashford, author, aged 9, of The Young Vis-iters, 1881; Billie Holiday (Eleanora Fagan), jazz singer, 1915. Deaths: El Greco (Domenikos Theotokopoulos), painter, 1614: Richard (Dick) Turpin, highwayman, hanged 1739; Phineas Taylor Barnum, showman, 1891; Henry Ford, motor manufac-turer, 1947; Theda Bara (Theodosia Goodman), actress, 1955. On this day: in France, the metre was made the official measuring unit of length, 1795; the Canadian Grand Trunk Railway was completed, 1914; the first London production of the musical show The Desert Song was staged, 1927; the World Heath Organisation was formed as a spe-cialised UN agency, 1948; Dag Hammarshjold of Sweden was elected Secretary-General of the United Nations, 1953. Today is Easter Day and the Feast Day of St Aphraales, St Celsus or Ceallach of Armagh, St George the Younger. St Hegesippus, St Henry Walpole, St Herman Joseph and St John Baptist de la Salle.

Lectures TODAY Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "Cézanne: drawings and colour-con-structions", Ipm; Robert Lethbridge, "Zola's Cezanne", 3.30pm. British Museum: Barbara Brend,

"Mandu: a palace fort in Sultanate India", 1.15pm. **TOMORROW** Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury. "20th-century Genre Painting".

ter of University College, Oxford.

1976-86, left estate valued at

Wills Arnold Abraham, Lord Goodman, of London W1. solicitor, former Chairman of the Arts Council, and Mas-

The tonal quality of the word "death" derives from our past. When I think about death, I remember the widow who wrote to me that she was dying, but whom I failed to visit before she was gone; I think of my own father-in-law, for whom the consolation in his final extreme enfeeblement was the thought that he would be reunited with his wife; I think of a friend who went through labour knowing that her baby had already died. These are the deaths which inform and colour my under-standing of death, and they are in the past. They cluster my memory with a variety of powerful emotions, of regret, of sorrow, of guilt, and even of encouragement.

Holy Saturday prompts a willingness to think long and hard about the death of Jesus, and to change the way in which these past deaths affect me. The same, of course, might be true of the death of Socrates, or any other death to which I might give serious attention. But the sort ference which it might make to think in this way about Jesus, rather than about anyone else, is a difference in understanding those connections between myself and others which death has brought

Death is a matter which touches me because of the impact which those past deaths have upon the web of interconnectedness which bound me to them. This web is made up of mutual relations. I both give to, and receive from, other people. My sense of the kind of person I am is bound into their lives, and their death inflicts irretrievable rupture, not just in our relationship, but upon my sense of my own continuity. Death, therefore, is what makes our search for person-constructing, identity-sustaining values so serious an

Arguments **f**OF Easter

Dying as part of a community of hope

The Right Rev Stephen Sykes, Bishop of Ely, concludes our series of meditations for Holy Week with a consideration of the meanings that death may have for a Christian.

enterprise. Since all our present relationships are going to suffer the damage that death can inflict, these values must be such as to understand the onslaught of the thought of death. If I show myself ready to allow the story of Jesus' death to influence the way in which I understand death, then in effect I am inviting him to have a hand in these relationships. To see death as firmly set within the con-

text of various forms of interconnectedness sets a question against that tradition which insists that we die alone. Of course it may be true that persons are physically or emotionally isolated when dying. It is also trivially true that people die one by one at particular times and places. But it seems a quite unnecessary case of giving death a bad name to insist that my death is something I must do on my own. We do not have to die in loneliness. The whole point of Christians saying that love is stronger than death is that one need not die alone in that sense.

Everything about dying should place us in the familiar context of those who have

surrounded here, if anywhere, by a great cloud of witnesses. This explains the fa-miliar petition in ancient liturgies that we be protected from "sudden death". To die suddenly, of course, meant to die without the benefit of the ministrations of a priest. But it also meant, in extremis, to die without even having been able to make a mental act of recollection, the point of which was precisely to locate oneself in the fellowship of those who have lived and died in the faith of Christ,

It is the measure of the distance we have travelled from such simple pieties that we should regard sudden collapse in the midst of daily life as the best of all possi-ble deaths. To desire such a death for ourselves is a sign of the degree to which we have come to accept an unrealistic unforgetfulness of death.

The Christian need not die alone, but as a member of a community of hope. That statement does not entail any Promethean denial of the reality of death, or an inauthentic cheerfulness about the prospect of dying. But it makes a large difference to belong to a community of forgiveness, love and endeavour, which knows that nothing can separate it from the love of God. Death has lost the sting which chains us irredeemably to the past, in guilt or desperate attempts at forgetfulness. When we celebrate the feast of that un-

conquered love tomorrow, we shall do so as a community. We shall remind ourselves of those moments of betrayal and rupture which preceded Jesus' death, and yet of how, within them, he gave up his life for the life of the world. And, because of this, we shall know that all those labours which build up our interconnectednessparticipated in the death of Christ. We are in-love will not have been done in vain.

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Anti-roads protesters may have lost a battle at Newbury. But they are well-equipped for a long war. Mary Braid reports

Eco-warriors undefeated

Steady Eddie, 28, a self-employed electrician, picks up the phone in the ecowarriors' media centre, an office on a Newbury industrial estate. "Depressed?" he says, raising his voice above the sound of CB radio and mobile phones. "Not a bit, People have just gone off to get their strength back and their heads together. Some went down to Winchester to watch the eclipse.

The last of 30 tree-top settlements - Tot Hill and Castle Camp - was cleared by bailiffs this week on the route for the Newbury bypass and their agile environmental guerrillas evicted or arrested. Despite the best efforts of the tree dwellers, an eight-mile scar now slits through forest and across meadow and hills a few miles out-

The buildozers and the hardhats appear to have won. They seem to have defeated the hard-core eco-warriors, born at wyford Down in 1992 (the first direct action anti-road campaign) and veterans of the fight against the M11 London link campaign two years later - who have emerged at Newbury as gladiators of the wider envi-

ronmental movement. Now the bypass, which definitely has the support of the majority of residents in the fume-choked, traffic-jammed town, seems almost certain to be completed. The Government is putting construction out to ten-der. Never has a British road been aban-

doned at this late stage.

This week the Highways Agency was in a bullish mood. It played down the disruptive effect of the protest, portraying the eco-warriors as nuisances, busy devouring public funds rather than operating as the land's custodians. 10,000 trees had now been felled, said a spokesman, and the bypass was on schedule. Road protests are apparently now built into work schedules.

And the law has weighed in heavily on the side of the builders. More than 700 protesters were arrested under the new Criminal Justice Act. Some were jailed or bailed to keep away from the site. When all else failed, the environmental champions turned to a rare tiny snail -Desmoulin's whorl - to stop the giant dig-gers. They failed to convince the High Court that the bypass should be delayed until the safety of the snail was assured.

But a bigger long-term issue faces the anti-roads campaigners this weekend than the loss of one battle at Newbury. There is an important question mark over whether the tactics they adopted are undermining their efforts to win over pub-

For the last three months it has been allout war between the hardhats and the Third Battle of Newbury troops (so-called because of two previous civil war battles) led by the dreadlocked tree climbers, with names like Blackbird and Galahad, and nelled beneath the bypass route to com-

plement sabotage from the air. As bailiffs and protesters fought it out in the trees, it was surprising that no one actually died. It eventually became a battle to see who could rise the earliest. The protesters got up at 4am to sabotage bulldozer routes: private security guards rose at 2am, in camouflage black, to destroy the

tunnels being burrowed underground. Leonie Austin, Highways Agency spokeswoman, says protesters' methods were "extremely dangerous" and reels off a litany of offences including planting spiked balls, spiking trees to damage chain-saws and the severing of vehicle break cables (these are claims protesters dismiss as exaggeration or invention).

Intimidation of Highways staff, she says, was widespread. "Most of our engineers had to go ex-directory." Since Twyford Down the protesters have become "clev-erer and slicker and they were always violent." In a rural setting the agency has found guerrilla tactics harder to combat

"There was a long period of democra-tic debate about this road and it's not our money being spent on security but yours," she says, no doubt most keen to reach those taxpayers who have popped pennies in the Newbury protest collection box. The bill for police and private security guards is expected to reach £4m.

And if public finance does not rattle your cage, how about those excrement and urine bombs? They hardly had the impact of a fatal concrete block dropped from a motorway bridge during the miners' strike, but they did create a little distaste for protesters' methods.

But not everyone believes that the tactics of the anti-roads campaign turned off

The Highways Agency is in bullish mood: 10,000 trees have been felled. Road protests are now built in to work schedules

the public. Danny Penman, who is writing a book about Newbury, believes that the protesters are still winning on public relations front. "Newbury was the first time it was in everyone's face," he says, pointing to the greater media coverage. "They have put the issue of road building on the

national agenda."
At Newbury, New Age has joined mid-dle-aged, middle class, middle England in a formidable display of opposition to the Government's road-building programme. Old biddies in woolly hats have stood side by side with nose-ringed youngsters. Perhaps the strongest sign of confidence in the Newbury protesters and their tactics was Friends of the Earth's decision to become the first mainstream environmental pressure group publicly to lend

Mr Penman admits that urine did rain and excrement did fall, but rarely; pink paint and sticky mushroom soup were the brigade, skilful manipulators of the media, assumed that body waste would not go down well with the public but, in an essentially anarchist network, it is impossible to control everyone's actions.

Even Paul Everitt, director of the British Road Federation, supporters of the bypass, admits that the protesters have a strong built-in advantage. A man in a suit holding a press conference is never as sexy - to the public or those who provide their news - as the heroes who live in the trees. Hence Newbury has become the frustrated home news reporters war zone, with



Urine did rain and excrement fall, but rarely; pink paint and mushroom soup were the protesters' favourites

hacks queuing up to report from a tree-house on the front line. "I try to wear a

colourful tie," says Mr Everitt, lamely. He also tries to get the message over that the real "losers" are the people of New-bury. But "no reporter has spent a day with a local trying to drive around Newbury". He parodies: "Here I am sitting in the car with Mr A and we can't get out of the driveway...." And if the superior appeal of lat-

ter-day Tarzans were not enough, he wrestles daily with a hypocritical public, happy to give a donation to save nice trees but ultimately unwilling to part with their

The protesters have an effect, he concludes, though not as directly as they might think. They do influence public opinion, which affects government decisions, such as the Treasury's £240m cut to the road-building programme. Compared to that £4m in security costs is a drop in the ocean for a government keen not to lose face when confronted by civil

disobedience. Few on either side really believe that the protesters are about to pack up and retire to that second treehouse in Devon. Furthermore, Danny Penman predicts that Newbury may be the tree dwellers' zenith.

They are not drop-outs but social revolutionaries with a desire to see widespread social change." After months of tree-top and tent discussions, he says tactics are about to change. "This type of protest has reached a cul de sac. The protesters will now move on to a wider battle against the

Whatever happens the foot soldiers remain loyal. Celia Murphy 27, an NHS supplies buyer from Birmingham, started road campaigning last year. She is now a fundraiser for the Third Battle and a frequent weekend visitor to Newbury. Asthma runs in her family and although she has only mild symptoms, her two sisters suffer chronic attacks. She supports Friends of Earth's proposal to cut traffic by 5 per cent by 2005 - radical when the Government is expecting the number of vehicles to double.

But Newbury is more than an anti-road campaign. The values and philosophies that guide the protest have caught Ms Mur-phy's imagination. Here live larger-thanlife characters struggling to find a new way and creating, through the names of their camps and battles, a new community mythology. Such freedom occasionally

This type of protest has reached a cul-de-sac. The protesters will now move on to a wider battle against the car

throws up the surreal, like the self-styled King Arthur Pendragon, who headed up the Camelot camp and is firmly convinced, along with his Druid followers, that it is his destiny to save the land from envi-

"What amazed me when I visited was people's understanding of the issues and how highly educated they were," says Ms Murphy, who adds she has seen little or no aggression from protesters, who regularly discuss how to remain "fluffy" in the heat of battle. "I took my uncle down, who is a historian and he thought it was like the early days of Christianity; all these people sitting round and talking and arguing about so many issues."

She is not surprised that the attempts to stop the route being cut have failed. But neither does she think that the war over. She will continue to visit at weekends with the donations that show no sign of drying

here. They believe there will be environmental disaster. While they are working at break-neck speed most people are just getting in their cars and living ordinary es. I think theirs is a saner reality.'

For Steady Eddie and those manning the fort this weekend this is simply a welcome lull in hostilities. At Twyford Down the greatest disruption came after the site was cleared and construction began. They have an 18-mile perimeter fence to patrol now and they will never keep us out," he laughs. "You can help or you can watch Neighbours."

Jo Brand's week

So Pepsi are painting the town blue and very tedious it is too. That animated ish Barbie doll. Claudia Schiffer, is raking in a fair bit, starring in an ad for the new improved Pepsi can. The story goes like this: adolescent boy has fantasy of being a bit of soap in Claudia's shower. Claudia approaches shower, boy's grinning face appears on soap as he prepares to fulfil his fantasy. Huge fat woman takes Claudia's place - boy screams in horror. I'm sorry, have I recently missed an important evolutionary event? Can mon-

keys actually use typewriters now? Are they employed by Pepsi as writers? And how do you write "Ha! Ha! Ha!" sarcastically? The new Pepsi slogan is "Change the script." Yes, please.

widens, people are being forced to change their eating habits. You see the underclass with no choice but to grub around for the sort of food that the middle classes wouldn't be seen dead eating. Boeuf bourgignon, fillet steak and boeuf en croûte. Poor buggers.

And poor little buggers, too. Children have always been the ones who suffer most through poverty and therefore it's cheering to know that charities like Save The Children are around to offer some sort of respite where basic needs are not met. It seems, though, that without even realising it, we are becoming one of those third-world countries with children living on the poverty line. Obvi-ously children here are nowhere near as deprived as their counterparts in the poorer paris of the world, but given the amount of money floating around in Britain, no kids should be going hungry. This is why several charities are getting together to form a more powerful entity to tackle poverty. Good to see them stepping into the political arena. Perhaps the Church might have a bash

it seems like everyone's hungry. Apparently vampire bats have started attacking peasants in El Salvador. because there's just not enough food elsewhere for them. Normally vampire bats prefer more digestible snacks, so they must be pretty desperate to put people on the menu. Maybe it's time for humans to put vampire bats on the mena. Given BSE and recent revelations that pies have TB, they may be the

As the gap between rich and poor only option left. Remember not to serve with garlic.

> I see Liz Hurley is to play Delilah in a biblical epic for an Italian-French mini series to be shown later in the year. Liz, who now has a quintuple barrelled name; 'Liz Girlfriend-Of-Hugh-Grant-Hurley" apparently looks wonderful in the biblical costumes according to one of those ubiquitous "spokesmen" who are required to come up with something/anything positive about stars in films. Strangely, he neglected to say anything about her acting ability.

Of course, Delilah was the woman who cut off her geezer Samson's hair, thus destroying his strength, resulting in his capture by the Philistines, but finally leading him to break up the temple col-



umn by crumbling column; Liz may well play this from the heart, not being a stranger to someone whose own column crumbled on inspection by a member of

If you live in London or the South-east, best not become a telephone worker. Our voices, it seems, are not very attractive to the earholes at the other end of the line. Some research carried out recently by a professor of psychology showed that when testing the reaction to various regional accents on the basis of trustworthiness, competence and sociability, Scottish accents scored very high on all counts. There seems to be no mention of how polite people actually are on the phone, and this means quite a lot to me. An operator I once spoke to who had a very nice reassuring voice told me I had a very nice voice too, and asked if he could phone me sometimes. I was gobsmacked and hung up. It was the one time I wished video phones existed – he'd never have started in the first place.

Advertising watchdogs recently condemned a poster for vodka using a drag artist, because they said it could encourage drinkers to become transvestites. You what? Oh yes, I can really see that happening. A few sips and suddenly you want to throw on the missus's twin set and swan off to your local bar. If we're talking the effect of advertisements on perhaps we need to examine ads for ing on the weight and being depressed.

some womens' products. For example, are the Wonderbra ads going to turn women into simpering idiots? Are the Pengeot ads going to make women leave their homes and rush over the Atlantic to drive across America? Or will wearing Boots make-up inevitably lead to hordes of out-of-control women lobbing cucumber at men's faces, snogging under tables or throwing plates? I think not. Don't be so silly.



Advertising of epic proportions

The new male contraceptive is as effective as the pill, we're told. It's been tested on 400 men and it's ready to go. Apparently, it works by lowering the sperm count which, I have to point out, Mother Nature seems to be managing fairly well on her own already. I'm not so sure I could be very confident about men and contraception. Some men will say anything to get women in the sack. Can we women be confident they've got nothing in their sac? At present, the male contraceptive is administered in rather unpleasant injection form in the buttock, so that's going to put off men with a low pain threshold. (About 98 per cent of them then.) Still, if it ever comes on to the market, it will make a changing you into something you're not. nice change to see the poor dears pil-

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You must speak up if you want the goalposts shifted

The worms are turning. From the Law Society to the Test and County Cricket Board, insiders are running scared. Out there, at the grass roots, outsiders are banging on the doors. A vacancy on the selection committee for England's cricket team has called forth nine candidates, among them Ian Botham; there is no precedent for the election that now has to take place. This weekend, solicitors are consulting barristers about the legality of moves to oust the entire council of the Law Society. It turns out legal revolution is a lot easier to engineer than anyone thought. Will Carling's immortal phrase rings in the air. The old farts are again under assault. Deference is on the run.

Well, at least there are welcome signs of renewal in organisations which could do with a spring clean. We should not get carried away. Revolts against the Establishment are not new. Each generation of youth struts its stuff and age quaits. We have heard about the end of deference before. One of the attractive features of Thatcherism was its impatience with old guards and status quos. Then Lady T turned out to be highly selective in where she swung her handbag.

The country's biggest symbol of deference to the wisdom of the ages (and the acres), the House of Lords, remains entirely unreformed. The Barings crisis showed that even in the City of London, supposedly subject to all sorts of competitive cleansing forces, the powers that were remained the powers that be. Deference ends only when those outside the gate start doing something to evict the possessing classes.

It is people's growing consciousness of them-

selves as consumers that has promoted the decline of deference. The Citizen's Charter helped, focusing attention on rights and the performance of institutions in meeting them. In politics, anti-deference mostly takes the form of access, the board rejection of politicians. Meaacross-the-board rejection of politicians. Measures of public esteem place Members of Parliament low, low down. But you can only throw the old farts out if there is a replacement team. A less deferential political culture would surely by now have given birth to more creditable alternatives than the Greens, the Social Democrats and Sir

In the voluntary and professional sectors and sport, deference has certainly taken a knock. In charities, from the National Trust to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, trustees and executives now have to worry about members' reaction and revolt. Often, though, members are only stirred by single issues such as fox hunting, for example. Their enthusiasm fires like a comet, then quickly wanes. Insurgents wanting permanent change must sooner or later take over running of the committee.

Of course, the grass roots are not necessarily progressive. The current president of the Law Society, Martin Mears, was elected last summer as the voice of "country" solicitors against the machine candidates. Mr Mears has been nothing if not controversial but, it seems, has failed to satisfy the country cousins that he is doing enough quickly enough to gouge yet more money out of the public on conveyancing fees. A special gen-eral meeting is in prospect that could, after postal ballots of members, lead to the unscating of



Mr Mears and the entire Law Society council. That outcome would not only offer a welcome demonstration of democracy at work. It would make the Law Society more honest and allow us all to see where conflicts of interest (between public and professionals, say) actually lie. Not all governing committees are stuffy. Age can bring wish dom; experience can inform decisions for the better. But what does matter is the relationship between the inners and the outers, consultation and, preferably, regular elections.

Traditionally, sport has been autocratic or, at best, oligarchic British football used to be a byword for deference, all those supporters crowded on wet terraces. Fans are now better treated - and pay more for it -but the operation of most clubs is far from populist. For all the rise of fan culture in recent years, football is still run by cliques whose connections with the unwashed masses of everyday supporters is limited: sup-porters are rarely invited to vote or participate in decision-making.

Sports government seems beset by what we

might call the Fifa factor - the prevalence of selfregarding gerontocracy in the upper reaches of the administration. Old boys go on forever. Will Carling's challenge provoked the fans in rughy, but only briefly. To effect change, fans have to be prepared to vote, vote and vote again.

Underdogs in voluntary organisations and professional groups usually have three options. They are exit, voice and loyalty. Most people are loyal; they defer. They may grumble – members may say things behind their hands – but loyalty to the regime ensures nothing changes. Exit is

BSE: science

when they should have been.

sive answer was carried out

Knowledge of the nature of

the agent does not tell us

humans. Species barriers pre-

spongiform encephalopathies

between species are present in

some cases but not others.

Chimpanzees appear to be sus-

ceptible to CJD but not to

scrapie whereas goats are susceptible to CJD and to scrapie

(Cell 40, 735-746). These

results and many similar were

known by the early Eighties. It

seems hard to see how the Government could have ruled

out the possibility of transmis-

Experiments are being car-

ried out in which genetically

engineered mice carrying the

human version of the prion

protein involved in susceptibil-

ity to the disease have been

exposed to BSE (Nature 378,

779-783). These experiments

need to continue for a number

of months before conclusions

can be drawn. The construction

and testing of the mice strains

used was reported in 1994 and

would have been the results of

"it is all very well for visionary

scientists such as Richard

Dawkins to deliver us accounts

of what makes us tick. It would

be more useful if science was

more open to the questions we

need it to answer." Only a

small fraction of research funds

and time are spent doing the

type of research popularised by

Professor Dawkins. Most research does consist of exactly

the sort of "grindingly boring"

experiments your article suggests need doing. It is worth

asking what the market would

have been for a popular book

discussing the dry facts of

spongiform encephalopathies

JUSTIN POWELL

Cambridge

prior to the BSE outbreak.

Sir: The response from scientists

and laymen to your leading arti-

cle on BSE and science reminds

me of the comment of that

great cynic George Bernard Shaw: "Science is always wrong;

it never solved a problem with

out creating ten more."
M RIAZ HASAN

at least three years of work Your editorial also says that

sion of BSE to humans.

prior to the late 1980s.

drastic. Fans stop going to games; members stop paying subscriptions. The organisation folds. Voice is the democratic option. Fans start speaking up. They appoint spokespeople who tweak the greybeards. Sports pages, like ours this week, resound with debate about prices and conditions. Members start calling special meetings, circulat-Members start calling special meetings, circulating round-robins and making a useful nuisance. Good so far, but they then have to be prepared to take the committee jobs, and run risk of becoming old farts in their turn.

ing old farts in their turn.
You can argue the England selection question in different ways. Ian Botham may possess a large character and an admirable track record on the field, but it is anyone's guess whether as a selector he will make, as they say in Yorkshire, a ha'porth of difference. Cricketing talent cannot be conjured out of nowhere, however imaginative the selectors of the TCCB might be.
Yet the contest for the committee has the merit of exposing cricket governance as a network of

of exposing cricket governance as a network of gents and amateurs. They may be the game's strength, embodiments of its values and better strength, embodiments of its values and better self. But there is no substitute for an election in exposing the argument. Not that the TCCB elec-torate is a great sample of English cricket—it con-sists of the mini-establishments in the counties and the MCC. Nonetheless, here the politics of cricket is going to be put on public display. Power is made more visible, contestable. You do not have to be John Stuart Mill – a first-class batsman with a beard to match WG Grace's – to believe that more contested elections must be a useful education in a society that holds representative government dear.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ■

Back to the 18th century with Howard's draconian penal code

Sir: If the Home Secretary believes that stiffer mandatory sentences for repeat offenders will have more than a negligible effect on the levels of serious crime he may be disappointed (report, 4 April). The "Bloody Code" of the 18th century - a haphazard collection of private members' Bills reflecting the conservative and unenlightened views on crime and punishment of the complacent landed gentry and the acquisitive nouveaux riches of the time - failed to reduce the amount of crime and disorder despite sanctioning the death sentence for over

The desperate or disturbed were not discouraged by the noose so a longer prison sentence is unlikely to have such an

were in awe of the savage sanc-tions and were disinclined to convict. fearing the sentence would be disproportionate. However, with the National Lottery, unbridled greed amongst public figures and a widely derided and not fully accountable government, the Britain of the 1990s disturbingly resembles that of the 18th

MARK TRAYNOR Grantham, Lincolnshire

Sir: Michael Howard ("The key to our protection", 4 April) now tells us that, under his new proposals, ministers would "have no part to play" in decid-ing whether to release manda-

taxpayers' money arguing before the European Court of Human Rights that it is essential for ministers to keep the decision-making power over mandatory lifers and not leave it to the Parole Board.

NUALA MOLE Director The Aire Centre London SW2

Sir: The Home Secretary's calculation that his draconian sentencing proposals would increase the prison population by 10,000 (rather than the 30,000 predicted by penal reformers) is based on three

First, the White Paper estiory lifers. mates that the proposals' detertence to two years and run the Can he therefore also tell us rent effect "will reduce the gauntlet of even more savage why in the past year he has requirement for prison places

breathtaking assumption that argues that sentences for flies in the face of experience. argues that sentences for offenders outside the manda-All available research evidence indicates that increases in the not be affected to any signifiseverity of sentencing have no cant extent as an indirect discernible deterrent effect on result." Yet history shows that, crime rates.

tual abolition of early release will not affect the prison pop-ulation because courts will take full account" of these changes when sentencing. Yet this would require a large reduction in sentence lengths, which is extremely unlikely in the current harsh climate. If judges are now fiercely attacked as allegedly soft for passing, say, a four-year sentence, are they really likely to cut such a sen-

is doing all it can tory sentence categories "will Sir: Your leading article of 30 March suggests that the reason we cannot answer the question whether BSE is infectious to humans is that experiments rime rates. when legislation sends an over-Second, it claims that the vir-all signal that greater or less

> ably has a spill-over effect into sentencing generally.
>
> These highly optimistic assumptions have led the Government to plan new prison places for only a third of the likely increase. The result will be to overcrowd already overstretched prisons even further, ruining the prospects for a constructive penal system for

severity is desired, this invari-

PAUL CAVADINO Chair Penal Affairs Consortium

DAVID **AARONOVITCH** Secret

which involve testing extracts of infected brains for foreign Virtue – as Mrs Anne was taken. The clerk survived by Turville of Wells in Som-nine votes to seven, and it was DNA or "mutated" protein were not done ten years ago erset has found out this week -Such experiments on scrapie must often be its own reward. vere performed as far back as This week, an unhappy Mrs the late 1960s (Nature 214, 764-Turville, who uncovered the 766) and a large body of work sordid secret of her boss (the leading to a relatively conclutown clerk) and told the town

council, resigned from her job as clerk's assistant. It is a simple and sadly typical tale. One fine morning, whether it is infectious to with the clerk engaged elsewhere, Mrs Turville - a one and forty - was searching for an invoice concerning the town crier's laundry. The top drawer of the clerk's desk suggested itself as a likely place for the invoice to have secreted

itself, so she opened it. Inside was a pornographic magazine entitled Escon - a publication regrettably to be found on newsagents' shelves the length and breadth of Britain. You do not have to imagine Mrs Turville's shock, for she has given her own vivid description of it. "I was disgusted by what I found. I don't expect to find that kind of material when I go through his drawers, looking for invoices." Worse was clearly to follow. Somehow Mrs Turville became apprised not only of the nature of the magazine, but also of its contents. It was "filthy, and had disgusting pictures of readers' wives", she said. Although the circumstances are a bit murky, presumably Mrs Tur-ville's determination to carry out her duties - and to discover the missing invoice - required

ing distress as she did so can only be guessed at. Mrs Turville (who, from her photographs is not a showy woman, eschewing fashionable diets and expensive make-up) put two and two together. knew he was up to something," she said, "because every time I stopped typing or walked towards his room I heard his drawer slam shut." She couldn't cope: "Knowing that magazine was in there was a mental pressure on me."

an examination of the revolting

item, page by page. Her mount-

It is, I suppose, to the council's credit that they took her complaint seriously. A special meeting was called and a vote

nine votes to seven, and it was suggested he seek counselling about his sex life. Mrs Turville herself, disillusioned, departed. She should take heart. Her action will have served as a salutary lesson to the five million

or so men who read dirty magazines. And, whereas the consequences of allowing her boss's solitary activities to go unchecked cannot be computed, now she has ensured that he has front of the community, his wife and his two small children.

Fortunately a woman of Mrs Turville's character should have little trouble finding a new job. There are still institutions in Britain that require the highest moral standards - Eton College, for example. There the headmaster (a tougher cookie than the liberals of Wells) is clamping down upon drug-taking. Pupils may be subject to compulsory drug tests and room searches, to be administered by school matrons.

The problem confronting the school is that it is sometimes impossible to tell whether a pupil has been using drugs or not. Schoolwork, participation in games, social behaviour - all these may be entirely unaf-fected. Only a blood-test can reliably detect the scourge of

drug-taking.
Strangely, the Eton decision
was criticised in yesterday's Daily Telegraph, which com-plained that such tests might trap youngsters who only use drugs at home during the holidays, "which is not a matter for the school (but) ... for the parents". Yet it is surely an odd morality that would allow one child to be expelled from school for term-time Ecstasy-dropping, while another is permitted a pharmacy-full in the long vac.

A proper compromise would be for parents to administer tests themselves (samples can be collected by fitting false bottoms to lavatories, surreptitiously collecting nail-clippings or, in extremis, drawing blood). This is essential because as

with pornography, drug-taking is far too serious a matter to be overlooked simply because it is done in private and no one else

Taxes well spent on roads

Sir. Emma Must of Transport 2000 looks for curbs on lorries (Letters, 31 March).

Lorries formed only a small part of the Government's need to create a 15-year programme to repair and reinforce bridges. The general increase in road traffic, age-related decay and continuous underspending on infrastructure all contributed to make it necessary. Certainly by 1999 we need to strengthen some bridges to accommodate the 40tonne vehicles used throughout the rest of Europe. But we will enjoy both economic and environmental benefits.

Obviously, heavy lorries create more road wear than cars. But so what? All types and weights of lorries pay taxes well in excess of their road wear costs.

Britain has the benefit of perhaps the most efficient freight transport industry in the world. Between 1968 and 1994 the number of lorries fell by 25 per cent while the average work done increased by 300 per cent, a remarkable record. The UK spends a lower per-centage of GDP on transport

than almost every other country in Europe. Rather than plan against the lorry we should be planning for it to benefit both the economy and the environment. Almost everything that we use or consume is produced by a lorry journey and, for the vast majority of freight transport movements, there really is no sensible alternative. GEOFF DOSSETTER

Sir: In your leading article on 3

April ("Back in the USSR"),

you acknowledge the right of Belarus and others to forge

closer links with Russia yet,

with regard to Bulgaria, you state that Western leaders should remind Boris Yeltsin

that "the independence of East-ern Europe is absolutely not up

Exposing its economy to the

rigours of market forces over

the last few years has caused

many Bulgarian businesses to

collapse, resulting in unem-

ployment and inflation. These

factors contributed to the for-

mer Communists being

returned to power in the demo-

cratic elections of December

1994. Bulgaria's leaders would

undoubtedly have broad public

for discussion".

Sir: The AA has not proposed privatisation of roads or increasing the tax burden on the average car-owning family ("Ministers axe plan to cut pollution", 2 April). What the AA wants is reform of our archaic system of transport finance and

motoring taxation. Elsewhere in Europe, decisions on transport are bound together with the funds to deliver them. In the UK the curse of our annual public expenditure round allows capital spending to be raided to balance short-term needs. This leads to a massive waste of money, with delayed preventative maintenance, and the preparing of endless projects that never arrive. The result is a low-grade infrastructure from which all travellers suffer.

What the AA is calling for is reform of the system so that the average family enjoys a better return for what it pays.

JOHN DAWSON

Director of Policy Automobile Association Basingstoke, Hampshire

Sir: A solution to the problem of "Why it's a slow life even in the fast lane" (5 April) would be to make it an offence to take more than 10 seconds to overtake. Although this would be difficult to enforce, it would in time change driver behaviour. No longer would we witness one vehicle travelling at 65mph overtaking another at 63mph, causing an immense queue behind. Dr EDMUND FURSE

support for closer ties with

In order to ensure that Bul-

garia does not turn its back on recent reforms, investment

from the West is required

rather then your bellicose state-

ments. It is to be hoped that the

annual meeting of the Euro-pean Bank for Reconstruction and Development, to be held in

Sofia this week, may catalyse

Harpenden, Hertfordshire

MICHAEL J RHODES

Head of Media Relations Department of Computer The Freight Transport Association Tunbridge Wells, Kent University of Glamorgan

Forced back into Moscow's arms

Subtleties: Afghan horsemen struggle for the prize Photograph: Tom Pilston Afghanistan a victim of Cold War power play which Afghans, from Buzkashi

Sir: I was interested to read Tim McGirk's article "Horsemen of Afghans' near apocalypse" (1 April) and was sorry he did not understand our game of buzkashī. It is an ancient game of skill and horsemanship, the forerunner of polo. It has its

playing regions will tell you. Afghan politics were not chaotic and neither were its games until the West made Afghanistan into an arms depot in order to dismantle the Communists. It is ridiculous to say that Afghans have inflicted war

and devastation on themselves. Afghanistan has been destroyed by foreign powers.

My country has been the victim of the Cold War and now the West has washed its hands

Nasrullah Saifi

National service for community

Sir: Mike Bird (letter, 1 April) cites an appalling crime com-mitted by professional soldiers in Cyprus as an argument against reintroduction of national service. Violent crimes in the services are rare. The armed forces do an excellent job in developing discipline,

self-respect and responsibility.

A national obligation to serve in the armed forces may well be politically unaccept able today. But I have no doubt that some form of obligation on all young people to do jobs of value to the community would help to promote caring and responsibility, and reduce the alienation and frustration which explain (but do not excuse) much juvenile crime. JOHN HUNT

(Lord Hunt KG)

Henley-on-Thames

British Library on the move

Sir: The British Library regrets the cuts it has had to make to its activities and services, which Marianne Macdonald (report, 4 April) correctly states have been forced upon us by a shortfall in grant-in-aid from Government. In deciding how to live within its funding, the library has given

very high priority to moving into and operating successfully from its new St Pancras building. Sacrifices have been made specifically to ensure a speedy move. Indeed, over recent months the library has actually accelerated its moving sched-ule, reflecting its high level of confidence in the Department of National Heritage's construction programme.

Brian Lang Chief Executive The British Library London NW1

Offence against Good Friday

Sir: I am surely not the only Christian to be astonished and angered that you should have chosen Good Friday, the most solemn day of the Christian year, to print two cheap and gratuitously offensive headlines

On the cover you print a pic-ture of the Last Supper, with the headline "The passion for

in your section 2.

food", and on page 13 you run an article on a sports commen-tator, headlined "The Jesus of cool". This is gutter journalism. One of the fundamental values of a humane society is an elementary respect for other people's deeply field beliefs. Do the staff of the *Independent* not understand this, or is it simply that they do not care?

EAMON DUFFY DD Reader in Church History University of Cambridge

A real turkey

Sir: Judy Allen asks (3 April) why we never eat turkeys' eggs.
I once bought two turkeys' eggs from our local farm shop as a treat for my small son and myself. The taste was amazing absolutely nothing. They tasted of less even than supermarket sliced bread. It was like eating icilied water, Judy Allen is certainly not missing anything.
Peter Stokoe

London SE5

QUOTE UNQUOTE

It's a bit like comparing plum pudding to caviar - Lord Hailsham, former Lord Chancellor, when asked whether he thought John Major was like Margaret Thatcher, but omitting to say which was which. I don't think Labour's front bench would recognise a civil liberty if you sprayed it on their eyebrows - Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP. He passed away with a dignified miaow, dying of liver failure like a true member - Katy Tatchell, deputy secretary of the Chelsea Arts Club, describing the demise of the club's cat, Orlando.

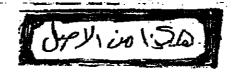
You might well ask why the dung beetle is included in the endangered species list. But the Environment Department says it should go on the list. That does not mean that if one comes across a dung beetle one has to be nice to it - Lord Ferrers, countryside minister. To be frank, which I am, I could easily have done without this measure. It is not scientifically necessary - Philippe Vasseur, French farm minister, on the slaughter of calves from Britain. I do not want to wear out my welcome - Gregory Peck, announcing on his 80th birthday that he was quitting acting after over 50 years.

Cinema's what I call a fat art. You sit around eating and running up a phone bill - Mike McShane, comedian. I won't just take off my knickers without good reason - Kate Beckinsale, actress, who has refused to disrobe in films.

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.nk) and include a daytime telephone number.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

EDITOR: Charles Wilson Assistant editor: Charles Lendhenter Managing editor: Colin Hughes section two editor: Sunon Kelner EXECUTIVE NEWS EDITION: Michael Williams NIGHT EDITION: RICHARD HOLLEDGY, NEWSWAPER PUBLISHING ILL, BOARD OF DESCRIPTION: Liam Healt (chairman), Lord Burrie, Juan Luis Cebrián, Ben Brudiee. Javier Diez de Polanco. Brendan Hopkins, David Montgomery. Andreas Whatam Smith AFATRINEA: Direction: Jeremy Recei



You'd be mad to do it, Beefy

Why a great England cricketer would make a terrible England selector. By Robert Winder

It is beginning to look like a typically English story. The campaign to get Ian Botham a job at the top of England cricket (a campaign driven, ironically, by the very papers that hounded Botham almost to death when he was a player) is swiftly threatening to turn into a farce. After England's poor showing in the World Cup recently there is a strong and understandable desire for a major shake-up at the top of the game. And Botham, the irreverent people's champion who played like a genius, drank like a navvy, strode up hill and down dale raising money for charity, and attacked kee a natural for a role as Messiah. Nine people have applied for the two vacant posts, but Botham's is the name that is hog-

ging the headlines.

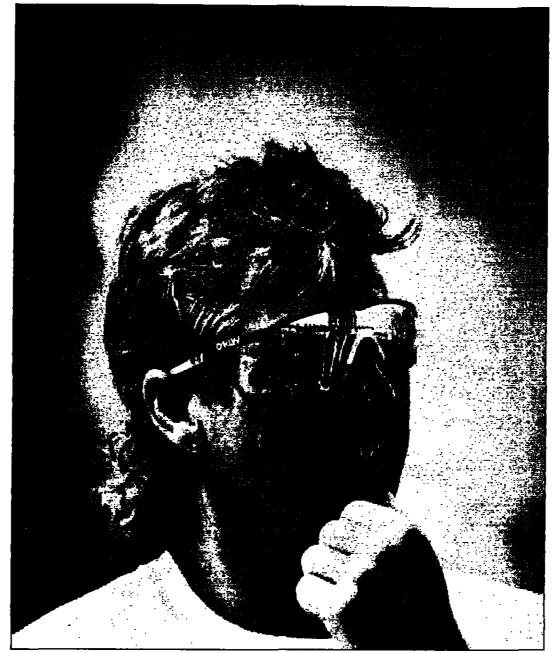
That is partly because of the Byzantine way English cricket goes about these things. Only a week after a ludicrous episode in which a couple of counties organised a failed putsch against Ray Illing-worth, the powers-that-be find themselves in an embarrassing spot once again. Yesterday the Test and County Cricket Board, the sport's

nected? It sounds as if the man they're talking about is part of some underworld mafia. This is the kind of language used by ancient judges cheekily pretending they haven't heard of the Beatles, and it will add grist to the mills of those who feel that a blast of Bothamesque air is just what the game needs.
On the face of it, things might

seem to have come to a pretty pass when a man who is arguably England's best player ever (20,000 runs, 1,200 wickets) is regarded as an unsuitable chap to help pick the present team. But of course the issue isn't that simple.

The reluctance to accept Botham onto the selection panel is not simply because of Botham's long-held and barely disguised con-tempt for cricket's ruling class -his

"gin-soaked dodderers" preceded Will Carling's "old tarts" by almost a decade; nor is it solely explained by Botham's sharp lack of enthusiasm for the chairman of selectors, Ray Illingworth ("If I had my way, I'd take him to the Traitor's Gate and personally hang, draw and quarter him"). It is undeniably true that nearly everything Botham has ever done has been dogged by



Can you picture this man as a sober selector watching hours of county cricket?

with shock if they knew how much have given the least thought to whether Botham would be any booze was put away by certain England players and myself good at the job if he got it. Every-one in cricket knows that the man was a bloody marvel, but ask them between the Saturday night and the Monday when I hit my unbeaten 149 in the amazing Headingley Ashes Test." He did, indeed, play whether he should be in charge and they tend to raise their eyes to the ceiling and laugh. It is not axiomatic that the greatest players make the best managers - Ray

> To be a selector is to be part of a team of chaps in suits -you win made up for the note

It is hard to believe, actually, that this is the job Botham wants. There is a much stronger case for him to be involved in the revving-up of the team itself - you sense he'd love to be down there with the boys, boasting about past triumphs, tipping beer over their heads, and rousing them on to greater things. More than that, he is a direct and forceful polemicist about the future of the game in this country. He wants the whole present structure torn up and rebuilt, and there are fewer and fewer people who would disagree with him on that.

Phil O'Brien

His ideas on man-management, too, are pretty sound: his main observation about the present England team is that the lads don't seem to be enjoying it enough -and that is plainly true. But it would seem a classic compromise - almost a botched job - if he were

There's no doubt that there's a mass of things he could do, but this might be too small a pond for a man of his hectic energy. It would be like giving Pavarotti a part in the chorus; you just know that, like the noisy brat in the infants' school choir, he'd end up spoiling it for everyone else.

Cross between religion and real life

Early Europeans could relate to the Crucifixion in their own culture, says Matthew Cragoe

Tomorrow, on Easter Day, services will be held across the country to commemorate the Resurrection of Christ. They will celebrate a decisive moment in God's relationship with man, when the resurrection of his only son vividly demonstrated to ordinary peo-

ple the potential for eternal life. This is one of the most powerful images in the Christian faith, but there is little understanding of just how significant it has been through the ages to Europeans. A story that sprang from the Middle East struck, in its particular details, a chord with traditional peasant beliefs. As a result, however unintentionally, the story sounded utterly convincing to a European peasant, who would have been left in no doubt that this man did, in fact, die, and was truly brought back to life on Easter Day, rather than merely revived after a dreadful ordeal.

To appreciate just how convincing the story was, it is necessary to reflect on the biblical images of Christ's Passion. There is the "sacred head ... scornfully surrounded with thorns", the nails through the hands and the feet, and the "sacred body pierced" from which "blood and water both proceed" that are highlighted in Anglican hymns for Passion tide. Thus, when we survey the Cross, we see precisely what the biblical accounts offered by the Apostles would lead one to expect. There is the crown of thorns mockingly placed on Christ's head, the nails through his hands and feet, the final gaping wound where the soldier stabbed at his side with a spear.

The thorns, the gash in the side and the nails in the feet would all, in European culture, have carried an extra significance given the popular beliefs and practices surrounding death and burial which were widespread in earlier times.

additional meaning of these death, outlined above, can be symbols is the belief widely imagined. The often poor and held historically that the dead were capable of returning from the spirit world to claim the lives of those still living in this irreversible, human death. All world. To prevent the dead returning, many cultures sym-bolically tied together the feet of the deceased. It was also common, particularly when plague was ravaging a community, to disinter corpses so as to

"kill" them properly, and thus

end their nefarious preying on the living population. What people often found

upon opening the grave helps explain a number of burial customs. Corpses that had been buried for several months sometimes looked very much alive when the coffin was opened. The top layer of skin might have slipped to reveal "new" and, therefore pink flesh underneath. The corpse might be bloated from the gases produced during slow decomposition of the body, and thus look surprisingly healthy, whilst the bacterial action involved could make the body feel warm and the blood in the veins liquid. And these forces, the warmth, and the pressure of gas some-times forced blood out of the body's natural exit points, including the mouth. It is to the conjunction of

apany stions

npen-

these physical characteristics of decomposition and the belief in the "living dead" that the cultural historian Paul Barber ascribes the folkloric belief in vampires throughout continental Europe. And he suggests that many burial practices were clearly intended to pre-empt the possibility of the dead returning to this world. In particular, Barber notes how attempts were made to prevent the bloating of the corpse, whether by slitting open the gut before burial or by the inclusion of sharp objects such as thorns inside the coffin, so as to puncture the corpse once swelling began. Taken in this context, it is

easy to understand how the figure of Christ on the Cross, with feet nailed together, the side slit open and the head topped with thorns, took on fresh meaning in traditional societies. The episode came to symbolise ultimate death, from which no return could be possible. The impact of this image upon those who lived in the The key to unlocking the midst of beliefs relating to illiterate peasant was con-fronted in the Crucifixion with a recognisable symbol of final, of this was made only more powerful by the image of tomorrow, Easter Sunday - the miracle of the Resurrection.

> The writer is senior lecturer in British History at the University

His main observation about the present England team is that the lads don't seem to be enjoying it enough

ruling body, circulated a letter to the counties whose votes will decide which two selectors should be added to the five-man panel. It off Botham's bid. "At least one of the nominations," the letter read, "is, we believe, very heavily connected with the media." It went on to point out that such media connections (Botham writes a column in the Mirror and commentates for

Sky) are regarded as disqualifying. We believe? Very heavily con-

controversy: brawls, court cases, scandalous headlines and all. But even this does not properly explain why he is being cold-shouldered.

Botham is that the very qualities that made him such a brilliant grandstanding player are precisely the ones unlikely to make him an effective selector.

In all the column inches devoted in recent days to the Botham case ("Lord's Letter Knifes Botham ... Let's all Boycott Beefy") hardly any

cent, and on present trends would grow

to 70 per cent by the end of the

Nineties. In many parts of Britain, indi-

vidual stores account for more than 25 per cent of sales – the usual definition of a monopoly. This success has been

achieved, in part, because supermar-

kets give us what we think we want.

They offer, through novel and "exotic"

goods, the chance to experiment with

our identity. They also offer variety,

convenience and efficiency - big parks

for our cars, 15,000-20,000 products to

choose from, the opportunity to satisfy

all our shopping needs in one trip - the

one-stop shop has an obvious appeal. The superstores, which we still mis-

takenly conceive of as grocery outlets,

now contain books, newspapers, flow-

ers, hardware, clothes, dry-cleaning

and pharmacy outlets; coffee shops,

In an increasingly harried age, the

so-called "one-stop shop".

Illingworth might be a case in point. But in England these days there is a kind of celebrity-hysteria that finds it hard to think further

But Botham's own huge reservoir of natural talent led him to be famously impatient with those less gifted than himself - which included almost everyone. And he was, just as famously, a reckless individualist and bon viveur. "Cricket's hierarchy," he wrote last summer, "would probably pass out

with a huge beery grin that day, and very wonderful it was too. But there wouldn't be many serious takers for a selector who judged play-ers first and foremost by how well they held their drink.

some arguments, lose a few, and have to watch a depressing amount of county cricket by way of research. It calls for a sober-sided man (women needn't apply) of unusual natience, and Botham - as he exhibitantingly admitted in his autobiography - seems an implau-sible candidate. As a player, he his appetites with the briefness of his attention-span. And he has a famously short fuse. As his autobiography delights in informing us, when things went wrong he used to go home, drink "a couple of bottles of brandy" and throw ashtrays and pizza at his wife. No wonder the selectors are trembling.

sumption. The social costs of this, such as costs of crime, are impossible to measure accurately but are probably enormous. Moreover, in an age when we must consider the environmental

longer afford such a one-dimensional approach to consumption.

The second issue is power. Nationally, no superstore technically constitutes a monopoly: Sainsbury's and Tesco just about muster a 25 per cent national market share between them. Yet, despite their much-vaunted competitiveness, they behave almost like clones, with one chain's cut-prices or customer loyalty scheme quickly emulated by another. In reality, they are an oligopoly - an unelected corporate élite which increasingly acts as the arbiter of a nation's tastes and rewards

impact of our lifestyles, we can no

itself handsomely for so doing.

The élite is composed of businessmen and devoted to the bottom line. It leads from behind, eschews experimentation and operates middle-range, safety-first policies. Hence, for example, the supermarkets' habit of choosing the more popular, fatty and sugary foods for their promotions rather than healthy alternatives. Hence, too, the relative absence of organic products on supermarket shelves and the comaints of food producers that to satisfv supermarket requirements, they must produce a standardised, uniform

product, usually doused in chemicals. The extent of the commercial power wielded by the big chains means such complaints are rarely voiced in public. In effect, a new paternalism has arisen -brought about, paradoxically, by the exercise of consumer choice. Not only should this prompt questions about the concept of consumer sovereignty in a complex economy. It also raises a disturbing prospect - that when the dominance of the big supermarket chains is nearing the 100 per cent mark, we may stand among the aisles of prod-ucts, marvel at the breadth and novelty, and never realise what we are missing.

"Between a third and a half of all cancers are caused by eating the wrong types of food"

Food for Thought

If you know which foods to eat - and which to avoid - you can dramatically reduce your chances of developing cancer of the breast, cancer of the prostate, cancer of the colon, cancer of the ovary or cancer of the merus.

Eating the right foods can also produce a great improvement in your health if you suffer from asthma, rheumatoid arthritis, heart trouble, indigestion, gall stones, varicose veins, wind, irritable bowel syndrome, high blood pressure, insomnia, allergies, tinnims, ulcers, restless legs syndrome, premenstrual syndrome and many other

A good deal of nonsense is written and broadcast about food. Finding the facts can be difficult.

Dr Vernon Coleman's book "Food for Thought" gives you the truth about foods and how to eat for good health. It contains information on vegetarian eating, microwaves, drinking water, mad cow disease, food irradiation, food additives, vitamins, fats and many other

There's even a section explaining how you can lose weight and stay slim permanently and easily.

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Published by the European Medical Journal

The cartel they don't want you to drive

Supermarkets form an oligopoly that denies real consumer choice, argues David Nicholson-Lord

It is a tribute to the success of super-markets that many of us enter them with a moderate shopping list and leave with a bulging trolleyful of goods - and a lingering sense of bemusement

Sainsbury's, Tesco, Safeway and company have made an industry out of binge shopping, turning their knowledge of what makes us buy things into a market dominance that would have been unthinkable a generation ago. And the bigger they have grown, the more ambitious they have become.

The car is the latest addition to the goods and services you may shortly find in your nearest superstore. Korean motor manufacturer Daewoo is to open a showroom in a Sainsbury's Savacentre store at London Colney, just off the M25 in Hertfordshire. It is thought to be the first link of its type between a car firm and a supermarket chain. Almost certainly, it will not be

For the ordinary impulse-driven shopper cast adrift in a glittering sea of communables, there is at least a consolation that you can't fit a car into a supermarket trolley. For the motor industry and its comfortable – probably to the motor industry and its comfortable – probably to the comfortabl bly too competable - network of dealers, the most will ring warning bells. Since the second World War, but more particularly since the start of the Highties, the big grocery chains have cut a swatte shrough the small independent shops that once constituted the British high street. The decision to start selling petrol, and the ensuing price war with the oil industry giants, show that they are not afraid to take on the Goliaths as well.

But the Sainsbury's and Tescos of world are Goliaths themselves now. Their annual profits regularly top the half-hallion pound mark. A recent report by Tun Lang and Hugh Raven for the institute for Public Policy Research found that the market share of the largest multiples had risen from 34 per cent in 1983 to more than 50 per



Supermarkets thrive on turning 'a few things' into a back-seat full of booty

hair-dressing salons and crèches. And since the big chains have three quarters of the food and drink market, but only a tenth of the non-food market,

it is in the latter sector that most of the growth potential lies and which they have thus chosen to target. The supermarket chains have had some powerful allies in their rise to dominance. In the Eighties, laissez-faire planning allowed them to concrete over out-of-town sites with sprawling superstores; the recent belated attempt

by the Department of the Environment to halt this exodus and the destruction of town centres it entailed still looks unconvincing. And the Government, for all its early pluralistic rhetoric, has been an ineffectual enforcer of competition policy. Instead, it has uncritically accepted the cliches of the global marketplace, arguing that on a world economic stage, Britain needs giant patently inferior, to do solely with con-

players and the bigger these are, the better. Industry wisdom - in other words, conventional wisdom - also suggests a future dominated by global

The truth, however, is that the rise of the superstores is resistible. Politi-

cal and social choices just make it seem as though there is no alternative. And those choices carry costs. The first concerns that overworked embodied something about civic iden-

word "community". One does not need to romanticise the high street or the town centre to conclude that it tity, neighbourliness and a sense of wider allegiances - what used to be called "public spiritedness" - which are wholly excluded from the sanitised interiors of the superstore. Supermarkets have helped to destroy this and have replaced it with something

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CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Markets set for fresh turmoil over US job figures

New York TOM STEVENSON

US Treasury bonds plunged more than two points, with yields soaring to their highest level in eight months yesterday, as strong US employment data wiped out what hopes remained of one more interest rate cut.

With equity markets closed in the US, as in the UK and most of Europe, there was no repeat the 170-point dive when equivalent payroll figures a month ago stoked up fears of resurgent inflation and higher borrowing rates. But both Wall Street and London will be on a high state of alert when trading resumes after the Easter break.

News of an additional 140,000 non-farm jobs created in March double the 70,000 market forecast - and a smaller than expected downward revision of the huge 705,000 February payroll increase to 624,000, confirmed that the American economy was growing at a healthy pace. The growth would have been even sharper if manufacturing employment had not slumped thanks to a strike at General

ing like this, the Fed is going to worry about rising wages," said Cynthia Latta, an economist at DRI/McGraw Hill. "They certainly are not going to push rates

Worries that the figures might signal a tightening of monetary policy sent the 30-year Treasury bond price skidding to a price of 89.16 from a previous close of 91.10. Its yield soared to 6.82 per cent, the highest level since August last year, up from Thursday's close of 6.67 per cent.

The key 30-year June futures contract suffered an even worse beating, slumping more than two points to crash through what had been a major support level. It fell through the support marker of 110.03 to close at 109.13, down from its previous close of 111,20,

"The January easing by the Fed may turn out to be the last in this cycle," said Kevin Flanagan, economist at Wall Street brokerage firm Dean Witter Reynolds, "I am not ready to talk about tightening but I think the Fed is going to be neutral from here on.'

Patrick Dimick, a Treasury analyst at CS First Boston, said the concern was that the March

data had pushed the threemonth average gain in payrolls to 206,000, a jump from the 142,000 average increase in the fourth quarter of last year. You have to start considering

Fed tightening," he said. Although trading was limited esterday, with the stock market closed and the bond market closing at noon, analysts said the plunge in bond prices was enough to raise expectations of further sharp falls in both stocks and bonds when full trading resumes on Monday.

"Bonds have been absolutely crushed," said Eric Wall, treasury market analyst at MMS International in Chicago, "People will return on Monday and look at the June contract in horror."

The concern is that when the rest of the market comes back next week, you will probably see rates continue to move higher." added Flanagan.

Some predict the 30-year bond yield will widen to between 7.0 and 7.25 per cent by July. That could spell disaster for stocks, as 7 per cent is considered a key point at which fund managers will start thinking about moving some of their equity holdings to cash and monev market investments.

Chancellor 'has little scope for tax cuts'



Off-target: The panel of independent advisers agrees on the political sensitivity of the decisions facing Mr Clarke

DIANE COYLE Economics Editor

Chancellor Kenneth Clarke is unlikely to meet his target for growth this year, but has little scope to either reduce the cost of borrowing or cut taxes, according to a report from the Treasury's panel of "wise per-sons" due to be published next

A majority of the six expert advisers predict interest rates might have to be raised later this year or early next, in forecasts which emphasise the political sensitivity of the judgements the Chancellor will have to make.

None of the economists on the panel of independent forecasters thinks the economy will grow by as much as the 3 per cent Mr Clarke predicted in last November's Budget. Professor Patrick Minford of Liverpool University and Gavyn Davies of the American investment bank Goldman Sachs are forecasting growth below 2 per cent.

Yet only Professor Minford believes there is room for more than another quarter point fall in base rates. He thinks the Chancellor should slash 2 percentage points off rates to boost growth to 3 per cent in 1996. There would be no danger of inflationary pressure while there is so much slack in the economy, according to Professor Minford.

He is well known for his view that the Conservatives' labour market reforms have boosted the economy's potential, allowing faster growth with-

The venture capitalist who turned a £750,000 stake in ML Laboratories into £370m talks to Magnus Grimond

other members of the panel Mr Davies forecasts inflation slightly above its 2.5 per cent target at the end of this year even with growth as low as 1.9 per cent.

Professor Tim Congdon of Lombard Street Research, the other City member of the panel, has recently sounded warnings about the danger of rising in-flation. He thinks the economy will expand faster than its longrun trend rate of growth in the second half of this year and 1997, making inflation of 5 per





Kate Barker of the CBL Bridget Rosewell of consultancy Business Strategies and Martin Weale of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research - predict higher growth. But even Ms Rosewell, the most optimistic, thinks the economy will expand by only 2.7

per cent this year. Her relative optimism is based on the same argument as Mr Clarke's - the expectation that tax cuts and windfalls such as building society flotations and maturing Tessas will put a tail wind behind consumer

spending.
None of the six, apart from
Professor Minford, believes that further interest rate cuts will be possible if the Chancellor is to get near his inflation target. The five predict that base rates will start to rise by later this year or early next year.

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The panel is, unusually, unanimous about the difficulty Mr Clarke will face if he is hunting for tax cuts in the next Budget. The disappointingly high level of government borrowing means that returning the public finances to the levels set out in last year's budget will limit the

scope for tax cuts.

Ms Barker said: "There is not a good background for major tax cuts that are not matched by additional cuts in public spending." Most experts think it will be difficult enough for the Gov-ernment to stick to the spending limits it has already set.

The panel will publish a report on the amount of spare capacity in the economy in May.

Biotech backer's new baby is caravan parks

A drop-out from the educa- Laboratories, one of a rapidly tional system, Kevin Leech is the unlikeliest venture capitalist. The son of a Manchester undertaker, this small, somewhat crumpled figure with a lisp might be mistaken for a salesman. He is actually one of

ech is no exception. His bashfulness is understandable, given the everpresent threat of unwanted supplicants, but the exterior impression is belied by a sure touch with investment. Since 1964 he has turned an original £3,000 investment in his father's business into a portfolio now valued at several hundred million pounds. Much of his success has been

based on one investment: ML

growing band of fledgling pharmaceutical groups. In January, the extent of that success became clear when Mr Leech raised £37.5m from reducing his stake in the group, leaving a re-maining holding still valued at Britain's most powerful business around £340m.

Not bad going for an original Wealthy individuals who risk investment of £750,000 in 1982 their money backing fledgling and a well-timed exit to boot. businesses tend to be a secretive His sale marked the shares' re-

Having reduced his holding to 54 per cent, Mr Leech is already turning his attention to his other investments. At the end of last month Milner Laboratories, the vehicle through which he originally invested in ML, announced it was injecting £1.5m into another of the so-called biotech babes, Proteus International, with the option of raising its stake to just under 30 per cent.

His interests range wider than biotech companies, though. Queensborough Holdings is at present one of the more intriguing possibilities. Like ML and many of his other business opportunities, this one arose from contacts in Jersey, where Mr Leech, who remains a keen Manchester United supporter, now makes his home.

The group, acquired with partner Stuart Sim, has been through years, but it is now being rapidly turned into a leisure business. On Thursday, Queensborough announced a £9.2m cash-raising to pay for three acquisitions which take it overseas to France for the first time. It already owns the Needles Pleasure Park, a 20-acre visitor attraction on the Isle of Wight, and in February paid £1.35m for the Cheddar Gorge Cheese Company.

The latest passion, however, is caravan parks and the recent deal increases the number of caravan pitches owned by the group to 6,000, making it one of the market's biggest. It is not something to set the middle class pulse racing, but Mr Leech is confident there is great potential in this highly fragmented industry.

"A lot of people cannot afford "A lot of people control to go on Continental holidays, or do they want to. A lot people want second homes, but they can't buy the big freehold second homes, so as people are living longer, as people are retiring earlier, as people are working less hours, the leisure parks are only a gallon of petrol away from where they live, so it's affordable", he says.

Queensborough is already the third-largest operator of caravan parks in the UK, behind

Sachs took a more jaundiced view, seeing too much opti-

mism in consensus profits growth forecasts of about 11 per

cent for the current year. He he-

lieved the cycle in operating

margins was reaching a peak

and saw an additional risk to the

equity market in bond yields which he forecast to rise.

bearish stance related to polit-

ical risk, which he thought the

But the main reason for his

Park Worlds, part of the Rank Organisation, and the privately owned Bourne Leisure. Now installed as chairman, Mr Leech is hoping to cash in on income growth in the sector, currently said to be running at around 8 to 10 per cent a year in the UK, and is ready eventually to expand into Europe.

ML Labs, Proteus and
Queensborough are just the

most public results of Mr ital in the early 1980s. Recently his Jersey connections led him to pick up Fletcher Powerboats, the biggest maker of trailer boats in Europe, from Homby Group.

His own start in business over 30 years ago was as a result of the death of his father. But he had to turn to the family solicitor for the personal guarantee which allowed him to raise the £3,000-odd he needed to buy out the rest of the family. That experience left an indelîble impression.

"In 1964 when I wanted help, nobody would help me. There were no venture capital funds then. No BES funds. There were no tax breaks for people. So I made a conscious decision ... that I would back

people when banks couldn't help. Banks can only help when you are successful. Banks can only help when you have got collateral. Mr Leech and Mr Sim also

claim a different approach from corporate venture capital backers by giving managements more time to succeed. "We hang on until we get them right and if it means buying another company to bolt them on, we get management, we get it right,"

says Mr Leech. Mr Sim emphasises the importance of ensuring both that the individuals remain keen and that the product and its price are right. They are less concerned about the return year-onyear. "A lot of businesses fail ... and they had no need to fail if they had been given more leeway by the bank.

With Mr Leech's ability to pick winners and Mr Sim's financial disciplines, the two men may have something to teach the slick venture capital groups operating out of the City. It is an impressive performance for Kevin Leech, who left school at 15 with eight O-levels and failed to complete his articles as a chartered accountant.

Reporting companies find the 'feelgood' factor

TOM STEVENSON City Editor

When the Easter weekend falls this early in April it provides a welcome break for analysts and investors, who can feel pretty battered by the annual reporting season's torrent of financial information. Within the past month alone, more than 500 quoted_companies have re-

results for 1995.
With so many figures filling the financial pages, it can be difficult to see the wood for the trees, so the Independent, in as-sociation with Hemmington Scott, the financial information publisher, has done a survey of the results for the largest companies reporting recently. Since the end of January,

orted figures, mamly full-year

when the reporting season really starts to get under way. 58 of the constituents of the FT-SE 100 index of Britain's largest companies have reported results. While the "feelgood" facthat corporate Britain is in big jumps in profits. The rest of

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pretty good shape - profits have been surprisingly good and dividends notably generous.

Business angel: Kevin Leech made a decision to back the

kind of people banks would not help

Of the 58 companies, which includes a representative range of retailers, banks, builders, oil companies and leisure stocks, only 10 announced lower profits than a year ago, with 48 reporting growth. Disappointments included

P&O, the cruises to ferries group, where investor unrest forced Lord Sterling to formulate a £1bn cash-raising exercise to attempt to boost shareholder value. Builders' merchants Wolseley and Tarmac fell as the construction sector's woes continued, British Gas's problems persisted and Unilever struggled to cope with pricing pressures. But these were the exceptions that proved the positive rule during February and March.

A raft of insurance companies benefited from an uptick in that sector's pronounced cycle and General Accident, Sun Alliance, Legal & General, Comtor has eluded the rest of the mercial Union. Royal Insurance country, the numbers suggest and the Prudential all recorded

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Source: FT Information

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the financial sector also joined in the fun, with Barclays, HSBC. National Westminster and Lloyds TSB notching up at least

double-digit rises in profits. Industry was not to be left out. ICI continued to ride the chemicals cycle and to benefit from its relentless cost cutting in recent years to see its profits jump from £408m to £927m. BOC, often seen as a bellwether of the world economy, increased its first quarter return by a healthy 13 per cent from £89m to £101m.

Recovery from previous disasters was a recurrent theme and Kingfisher, the Woolworths,

B&Q and Superdrug group, continued to put its recent problems behind it with a 28 per cent profits rise. Ladbroke reversed 1994's huge losses into a respectable £95m profit despite the assault on its betting

arm by the National Lottery. While the profits rises have been striking, what has been re-ally noticeable about this year's reporting season is the extent to which companies are choosing to return value to shareholders, some by share buy-backs such as Guinness's, many with dividend increases way in excess of the rate of inflation.

As the table shows, some of

-		
Dividend growth: Engi	ne room of t	he market
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BAe +25	Hanson (Q1)	unchanged
Barclays +24	British Gas	unchanged
Angos +24	Termac	unchanged
Reuters +23	Rexam	+2
Sheli +23	Cacbury Sch	+3
Abbey National +22	Wolseley	+5
		

INTEREST RATES

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the increases have been extremely chunky and of the 58 companies included in the survey only Redland reduced its payout. Wolseley's 5 per cent increase, which puts it in the laggards category, still represents a dividend rise worth almost twice the increase in the cost of

Out of 58 companies, 29, or half the total, increased their payout by more than 10 per cent. As one analyst quipped, you can get a better return on your cash by investing in Abbey National shares than by putting the money in an Abbey account - and the income grew by 22 per cent last year.

The Independent survey confirms the message from the equity market strategists contacted this week, who said the results season emerged slightly more positive than they had expected. Bob Semple, at NatWest Markets, said that of the 163 companies he tracked, 23 had disappointed compared with 46 which had turned out better than forecast.

City was yet to take seriously. With the market likely, in his view, to end the year at 3,400. compared with Thursday's close of 3,755.6, he recommended taking shelter in late cycle stocks such as stores, services, transport and chemicals.

The bull argument was provided by Mark Tinker at HSBC James Capel, who focused on dividend growth, which he expected to continue at between 8 and 9 per cent for the rest of the year. Compared with inflation of less than 3 per cent, he said that represented an unusually good real return etter than forecast. and he expects markets to reach Paul Walton at Goldman a year-end target of 4,000.

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£30,000 to £99,000 £.R.J.	5.15 5.27	£10,000 to £24,999	2.00
£25,000 to £49,999	3.27 4.51	£5,000 to £9,999	1.73
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gross to non-taxpayers subject to eligibility and the required registration. Otherwise interest will be paid after deduction of income tax at the appropriate rate.

The minimum investment and balance on the Society's Charity and Clients' Reserve accounts has been changed to £100. If the balance in these two accounts is below £100 for a period of 3 consecutive months or more, a charge of £1 per quarter will be debited to the account.

† Gross Compounded Annual Rate where the interest is reinvested in the account monthly.

* If the capital balance in the account is below or falls below this minimum initial investment, interest will be payable at the standard interest rate for the Investment Share Account (excluding bonus) for so long as the capital balance remains below

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sport

Damage limitation not in Harlequins' thoughts

This time last year Harlequins were worrying about relegation. This time around, with essentially the same personnel, far from contemplating the drop, they are contemplating dropping in on Europe as they head for today's match against Bath at the Rec.

Barring some improbable results in the run-in, a place among the elite will be Quins for the taking and it looks as though they may have the services of Ireland's hooker, Keith Wood, and the Neath and Wales lock, Gareth Llewellyn, when they begin their European campaign. Wood yesterday discussed a move to The Stoop, despite the Irish authorties' recent deal designed to keep their top talent at home.

Llewellyn's move will be subject to Welsh Rugby Union approval. They have said they want assurances from Harlequins that he will be released for all international squad training sessions and Wales matches.

David Liewellyn on a weekend that sees rugby union's Barbarians going to Cardiff

So it is no wonder that Harlequins, who have never beaten Bath in 11 league games, head west in upbeat mood. They are in second place two points behind Bath having scored 455 points, some 34 more than the leaders, and they are talking of winning. The ability has always been there, now there is added steel.

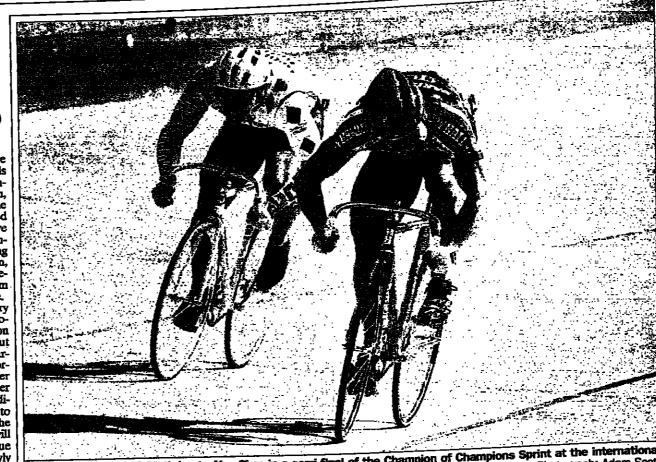
Their success has given the stand-off Paul Challinor a deal of personal satisfaction, because he had to start off in the third XV after missing preseason training through injury. Oesteopathy sorted things out and when the first choice, David Pears, was struck down by his injury jinx Challinor took his chance. The 26-year-old, who has been accused of being a kicking stand-off in the past, says there is a change of outlook

"There is confidence," he explains. "Last year I had to kick because it was about the only time we went forward in a match. This year it is different. Thanks to Gareth Allison we are winning a lot of line-out ball so I now have other options. We normally go to Bath with damage limitation in mind. This time we are going there believing we

have a chance. Quins are unchanged from last week which means Chris Sheasby returns from the Hong Kong Sevens - his club were unhappy about his appearance for England in the tournament - to the ignominy of the bench. Bath, in contrast, welcome back sevens men Jon Sleightholme and Adedayo Adebayo. Ben Clarke is on holiday so the Scotland international Eric Peters is recalled.

Leicester, in third place, are still without Dean Richards but they too find room for an-other Hong Kong Sevens man, Neil Back, for the critical home game against fourth-placed Wasps. The London side have lost Damian Hopley who damaged knee ligaments in Hong Kong and is out for the season, while stand-off Guy Gregory returns on the squad rota system in place of Chris Braithwaite.

London Irish need a victory over Bedford to secure pro-motion to the First Division while in Wales Cardiff send out a callow side against a Barbar ians' XV which includes the for mer All Black John Gallagher and the veteran Rugby winger Eddie Saunders for a traditional fixture that is expected to attract a 15,000 crowd to the Arms Park. Most of Wales will be concentrating on the league where Neath travel to lowly Abertillery looking to extend



Pedal power: Alwyn McMath beats Alex Sims in a semi-final of the Champion of Champions Sprint at the international track cycling meeting at Herne Hill yesterday. McMath lost to Frederic Magne in the final



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Sweden fight for 2-0 lead

Tennis

Thomas Enqvist rebounded from a difficult start and Jonas Bjorkman struggled to a five-set win to give Sweden a 2-0 lead against India yesterday in their Davis Cup quarter-final in

Bjorkman defeated Leander Paes 1-6, 6-4, 5-7, 6-3, 7-5 in a gruelling match that took more than three hours to complete while Enqvist had a slightly easier 6-7, 7-6, 6-1, 6-1 win over Mahesh Bhupati.

Bhupati, after winning the first set tie-break, broke Enqvist in the 10th game of the second set but squandered the next game with two double faults and two errors. He lost the tie-break and never recovered. All his 18 aces came in the first two sets.

In the first match, played at the peak of the heat, Bjorkman only found his game in the middle of the second set. By first five service games.

By the beginning of the final set, both Bjorkman and Paes were drained by Calcutta's notorious heat and dampness 90.5F and 62 per cent hum-

Eleven deuces were recorded in the first two games and despite eight double faults in the last set, Bjorkman held his serve and finally broke Paes in the 11th game.

South Africa took a surprise 1-0 lead yesterday against Italy in their quarter-final in Rome. Marcos Ondruska beat Italy's top player, Renzo Furlan, 6-4, 4. 6-4 win.

In Prague, Todd Martin powered his way past Petr Korda of the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-4. 7-5 to give the holders, the United States, a 1-0 lead while Germany, without their leading players, Boris Becker and Michael Stich, went 1-0 behind to France in Limoges as Cedric Pioline, the US Open runner-up in 1993, beat David then he had dropped four of his Prinosil, ranked No 40 in the world, 6-0, 6-7, 6-4, 6-3.

Martin puts Horner 'back in her corner'

Jane Martin pulled off an astonishing victory at the Leekes British Open in Cardiff yesterday when she defeated the third seed Liz Irving in the quarter-

The former British junior champion triumphed 9-2, 6-9, 5-9, 9-7, 9-2 in 71 minutes to qualify for a semi-final against the defending champion, Michelle Martin, Irving's Australian team-mate.

Jane Martin, seeded 10th, revealed a level of mobility and tactics that England observers had been awaiting for some

lies compared to 10 from the ex-

perienced Irving.
Michelle Martin, the top seed, had earlier removed Suzanne Horner, the British national champion, 9-6, 9-1, 9-3 in a 39minute match that reversed the result of their recent meeting in the Abshot Open.

Horner, seeded six, was unable to deal with the athletic determination of an opponent who dismissed their Abshot match, in which the Yorkshire woman beat her for the first time, as just another game.

"It was nice to get quick revenge," the Australian said. "I have put Mrs Horner back in her corner." The men's second seed, Rod-

ney Eyles, won an all-Australian battle with Anthony Hill 15-10, 15-9, 15-7 in just half an hour. Mark Chaloner - Jane Martin's training colleague - lost 15-6, 13-15, 15-8, 15-9 in the

men's quarter-finals to Brett Martin, the elder brother of Michelle. From 6-7 down in the fourth game, she emerged as the stronger competitor, making just one error in two dozen ralvember's World Open Cham-

pionship. The inventive Australian powered through the opening game, had to give way as Chaloner counter-attacked in the second but steadily took command of the court through

Hendry defiant after another setback

Stephen Hendry will go into the World Championship at The Crucible, Sheffield, in a fortnight's time still looking for his first ranking title victory of the year after being beaten by Nigel Bond at the British Open in Ply-

mouth yesterday.

The Scot succumbed to only his second defeat in 12 meetings with his stablemate Bond. losing their third-round match 5-4. Hendry, the five-times world champion, remained defiant after his defeat, however, and said: "What happened here will have no bearing on events at The Crucible. I haven't done well at this tourbut have still gone on to win the world title."

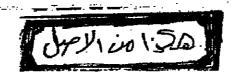
Bond, runner-up to Hendry in last year's world championship, produced a stunning

clearance of 59 to the pink in the deciding frame after Hendry had missed a black with six reds left when leading 38-7. "It was terrible. I couldn't make a long pot to save my life," Hendry said. "I thought I'd get another chance as we both missed so many pots through-out the match. But credit to

Nigel for that clearance." Bond's success was his first over Hendry since the 1993 Regal Welsh Open. The world No 12 from Derbyshire admitted: "I thought I'd blown it. After I'd missed a couple of reds early on I just decided to go for it. "Stephen's beaten me so

many times that I guess I owed 🦸 him one. I have struggled to find my best form since the nament in the last three years new year and it would be nice to win this event just before

Sheffield," Bond now meets Peter Ebdon today for a place in the semi-finals.



GOLF: Next week's US Masters will end a way of life for one amateur. Tim Glover talked to him

Sherry sips at the big time

ordon Sherry will turn professional sooner or later and the odds say it which suggests he could understudy as a lighthouse in the Firth of Tay. In every sense will be sooner, i.e. next Friday as opposed to Sunday. Whatever happens, Sherry's last tournament as an amateur is the Masters at Augusta National which starts on Thursday and if he fails to make the half-way cut he will join the paid ranks before Saturday comes.

As the reigning amateur champion. Sherry is one of the special invitees to Georgia's exclusive garden party, the first major championship of the season. Although Bobby Jones, the man who built Augusta National and inspired the Masters 62 years ago, was the greatest nateur of all, the record of the Corinthians suggests that Sherry's appearances down Mag-nolia Drive will be limited. Amateurs do not hang around for the weekend of the Masters.

"If I win it," Sherry said,"[7] have a big party at the end." He did not laugh when he made the remark. Sherry will be 22 on Easter Monday and what concerns him is that he has a debt to pay, particularly to his parents, Anne and Bill. Anne teaches handicapped children. Bill is a retired policeman and they have raided the Bank of Scotland to fund a family ex- because I play cursion to America.

"I can't wait to turn professional," Sherry said. "Being an amateur and trying to play in tournaments is a nightmare. The stupid rules mean that I'm not allowed to get any expenses and once again my mum and dad have had to fork out. It's scandalous. I win the amateur, go abroad to represent Scotland on behalf of the Royal and Ancient and because of the ridiculous regulations it's my parents who end up paying. I could have done a few things but nothing that would have been legal. I can't sign anything until I turn pro."

Sherry had to decline an inig itation to play in the Desert Classic in Dubai last month. There was no point," he said. "It would have cost me well over £1.000 and that didn't include food or expenses for my caddie." He is not short of invitations or sponsors or management advice and will almost certainly sign for the Edinburgh-based company customs declaration form going out to Georgia he described himself as a student. On the return leg he can write: professional golfer.

As Sherrys go he is in the schooner class, 6ft 8in (three inches taller than his father) with a shoe size, 13, that has old Bill written all over it and at the top is a shock of ginger hair

Sherry made a huge impression last summer which had agents clamouring for the number of his mobile phone.

After winning the Amateur Championship at Hoylake (where Bobby Jones won the Open in 1930, the last amateur to do so), he had a superb 100 per cent record in leading Scotland to the European team championship at Royal Antwerp and then finished fourth in the Scottish Open at Carnoustie behind Wayne Riley, Nick Faldo and Colin Montgomerie. No amateur had ever made the cut in the Scottish Open. It was the fourth-best performance by an amateur in a European Tour event and had he been a pro he would have won £30,000. As it was he won £1 off Tiger Woods, betting the American amateur champion

'I get annoyed when people treat me differently just golf well'

he would finish higher than

Sherry received a special bottle of whisky from Carnoustie Golf Club. He responded: "This is the best links in the world [enthusiastic applause]... apart from Kilmarnock Barassie." That, of course, is his home course. The whisky is still on the shelf. We're not drinkers." Anne said, "and Gordon doesn't touch a drop. With a name like ours we don't need to.'

After Carnoustie, the dry Sherry enjoyed another fabulous week in the Open at St Andrews. In a practice round he played with Tom Watson and Jack Nicklaus and got a hole in one at the eighth. In the second round of the championship, playing with Watson and Greg Norman (combined earnings £50m) Sherry (student grant) shot 71 to Wat-Carnegie next weekend. On the son's 76 and Norman's 74. "Did an experienced bagman on the I get any sleep? Of course I did. circuit. In addition to playing in I'm a student."

George Bush, following the three ball, remarked on Sherry's golf and added: "I hear he's a nice guy." Those around him, not counting men in raincoats, dark glasses and holsters, confirmed to the ex-President that Big Gordy was indeed one of the best. Nicklaus invited Sherry to

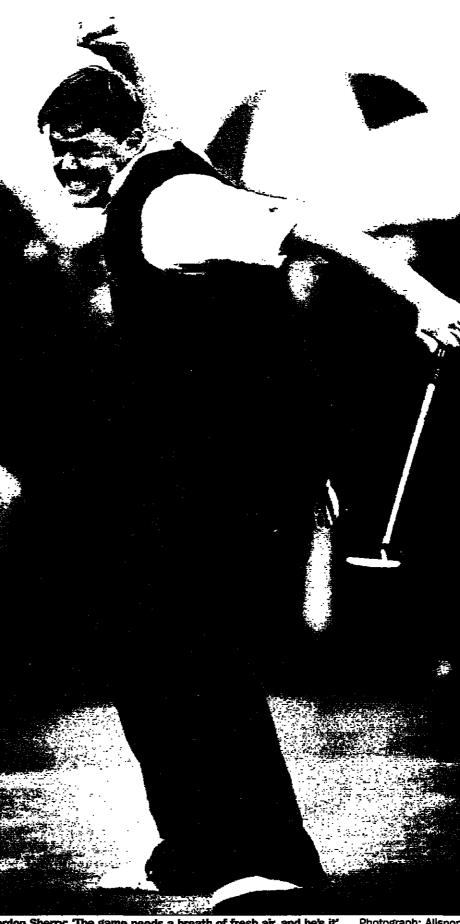
his tournament, the Memorial in Columbus (he will play in it later this year) and Norman said of him: "He's intelligent, likeable and nothing seems to faze him. He reminds me a bit of Ernic Els. I'm really really impressed with this kid and I can't say that about many youngsters I've played with around the world. The game needs a breath of fresh air and he's it." Watson, remarking that Sherry was large enough to play tackle for the Kansas City Chiefs, said: "He's got a great smile, a sense of humour... he's just a delightful guy. Besides that he can play."

It is not true that nothing fazes him. "The attention has put a strain on the whole family." he said. "I'd be lying if I said it wasn't difficult. It is nice for people to take an interest but with some it's almost hero worship and I'm not a big fan of that. I'm still the same person and I get annoyed when people treat me differently just because I play golf well. The phone never stops and I've got to be tougher. As a pro I'll be a small fish in a big pond."

By the time he brought a momentous year to an end by leading Britain and Ireland to victory over the United States in the Walker Cup at Royal Porthcawi, Sherry, feted and dined, was hitting the scales at 20st. This year he has done a Montgomerie and has lost three stone. "I like my mum's cooking too much," Sherry said. "I was overweight but not by that much, I'm not starving myself, I'm just being careful. Breakfast, lunch and dinner is all I need.

After the Walker Cup he returned to Stirling University to complete his studies for a degree in biochemistry. He will get the results in June. Sherry has not had a chance to play competitive golf this year but spent a month practising at Desert Mountain in Phoenix, as a guest of the owner Lyle Anderson, and two weeks at Valderrama. "I got a cheap flight," he said. Anderson also owns Loch Lomond GC and has made Sherry an honorary life member.

If he has saved a few bob on his own food bill, Sherry has another mouth to feed; he has employed a caddie, George Sprunt, alias Turnberry George, the Memorial (Big Jack laid down one condition, that the Scot was not missing any exams). Sherry has received invitations to the Kenner Open in America, the Benson and Hedges International, the Murphy's Irish Open, the Loch Lomond World Invitational and the Italian Open and also hopes



this club was heading for the old Gordon Sherry: 'The game needs a breath of fresh air, and he's it' Photograph: Allsport

Scottish Opens.

As for life on tour, Sherry has had a chat with his best pal, Stephen Gallacher, the nephew of Bernard, who turned professional earlier in the year. "I played nine events in a row last year so I know what it's like to play out of a suitcase," Sherry said. "It can't be much different from being an amateur. The only difference is that it's your living,

to get into the English and Augusta National offers amateurs on-course accommodation. a bedroom in the clubhouse Crow's Nest, but Sherry declined. *People would know where I am and I'd get pestered. We're staying in a wee private house." A bodega of Sherrys will make the trip - parents, aunts, uncles and his elder brother Jain who has a handicap of eight. "He likes to describe himself as a lithographer.

Sherry gets 10 tickets for the tournament but only two that will gain entry to the clubhouse. "I've already given them to mum and dad." At Augusta he will also be reunited with his coach, Bob Torrance, "The last time I saw him I said 'see you at the Masters'. Imagine that, It sounds fantastic doesn't it? See you at the Masters. If I win it I'll go ex-directory. No I won't. I'll emigrate." No he won't.

Old and new meet at Cowes

Sailing

STUART ALEXANDER

Ancient and modern combine in Cowes today as the Matthew, a replica of John Cabot's 1497 ship which took him from Bristol to Newfoundland, meets up with a near-40 strong fleet contesting the Royal Ocean Racing Club's Red Funnel Easter Regatta, including a clutch of boats limbering up for Commodores' Cup team trials. Neither appreciated the

chilly but fresh winds from the South-east, although the Matthew's master, David Alan-Williams, will be ready for worse when he sets off for north America next year and has experienced much more misery on the world recordbreaking run of the 92ft catamaran Enza when winning the Jules Verne Trophy.
The first boat to finish in Class

One yesterday was Stephen Fein's Full Pelt, followed over the line at the finish of a 15-mile race in the central Solent by two courage regional support.

Mumm 36s, John Oswald's Destiny Angel and Tim Barrett's

First boat to finish in Class Two was Chris and Georgie Brown's Billy J Whizz on an aftemoon watched by Harry Cudmore, brought in by the RORC to offer coaching hints to those hoping to make what is expected to be two England teams to the Commodores' Cup in July. Formal trials begin next

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month and this is an area which Cudmore has not contested for some time. "It will be interesting to have a look at what is going on at local and club level after being so closely involved in both Admiral's and America's Cup," Cudmore said. "It is really too early to say what will need to be done, but weekends like this early in the season offer useful pointers.

The New York Yacht Club's Pact 2000 defence syndicate for the Americas Cup has linked with the Portland Yacht Club, Maine, and Detroit's Bayview Yacht Club to en-

Block to Cadle's prize

Basketball DUNCAN HOOPER

When London Towers' players celebrate their Budweiser League championship this weekend in the final games of the regular season, their coach, Kevin Cadle, will be reflecting that the prize he most cherishes remains out of reach.

The new European Super League for the Continent's top 24 clubs launches in September, but English basketball does not rate highly enough to earn a place. Čadle, who is poised for a clean sweep of all the domestic titles for the fourth time in six years, recognises that Euro-

I'm a big fan of Roberto Duran's.

over here and he makes a big show

by disrespecting me. He's fat and

lazy, a fat hamburger-eating slob. Hector Camacho, on Roberto Du-

ran, who he fights on 22 June.

To be fair, it was karnikaze de-

fending. Managers would be dead within six months if every game was like that. Liverpool manager Roy

miership victory over Newcastle.

I am appalled by the criticism.

These people should remember

Third Division when Kevin took over. Newcastle chairman Sir John Hall

You know Dennis Wise - he

could start a row in an empty

house. Manchester United man-

age Alex Ferguson after an inci-

ager. Kevin Keegan.

pean basketball is the only meaningful test of a league's competitive status. "English basketball is not ready for the Super League yet," the American acknowledges, "and we won't be ready for a while. We have to go one step at a time and get the finances and the administration right."

The International Federation's rankings have been based on the last three years, when English clubs' poor record in En-ropean competitions has left them rated below such countries as Georgia, Switzerland, Slovakia, Macedonia and Ukraine. Spain, Greece, Italy and France will each have three clubs in the Super League.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

thinking about helping Southermp-ton stay up, but if the worst hap-pens I can't see myself staying. I have never been more seri-

ous about anything in my life. Ian Botham on his nomination as a I've not considered stepping

down. Wigan rugby league chair-man Jack Robinson, who has been charged with conspiracy to defraud after a police investigation into an alleged bogus transfer deal. own as Damon Hill rather then Graham Hill's son. Daimon Hill, who has won the first two grands prix of the season.

Even today they are taking a lot of drugs to try to run 9.79 and can't run that fast. So how I got there they have no idea. Ben Johnson who broke the 100m world record at the 1988 Olympics before be-ing stripped of the gold medel ofter testing positive for sterolds.

WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE

TODAY

Football Matches not on pools coupons 3.0 unless stated GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

Bromsgrove v Southport Dagenham v Kettering.... Northwich ough v Gateshe Dover v North

ICIS LEAGUE Premier Division: Bishop's ICIS LEAGUE Premier Division: Bishop's Storriford v Aylesbury; Chertisey v Bromley; Dutwich Hamilet v Boreham Wood; Enfield v Yeading: Hayles v Grays; Hendon v Yeovi; Arrifeet v Molesey; Sutton Utd v Http:hir; Arrifeet v Molesey; Sutton Utd v Http:hir; Valation & Hershamn v Kingstoman; Worthing v Harrow Borough, First Division: Abingdon Town v Basingstoke; Adenshot Town v Barking; Barron Rovers v Berkhamsted; Billericay v Marlov; Bogon Regis v Oxford Cty; Chesham v Ubrindge; Leyton Pennant v Mandenhead; Ruiskip Manor v Heybnidge Safis; Stames v Tooting & Mitcham; Thame v Wernbley; Wryseleafe v Workingtam. Secvey Island v Bracknell; Edgware v Saffron Walden; Egham v Wivenhoe; Hernel Hemp-Walden; Egham v Wivenhoe; Hemel Hemp-

Waister, Egram v Wisenhoe; Hernel Hemp-stead v Dorlang; Hungerford v Chaifort St. Peter, Leatherhead v Hampton; Metro-politan Police v Cheshunt; Witham v Croy-cton. Third Divisions Camberley v Horsham; Capton v Wingate & Finchley; Harlow v Hardfield; Homchurch v Heriford; Kings-bury v Epsom & Ewell; Leghton v Cove; Lewes v Packwell Heath: Northwood v Weakistone; Southall v Timg; Windsor & Egon v East Thurmot. NO LEAGUE Premier Division: 821unusund LEAGUE Premier Division: Barnow v Manne; Bishop Aucidand v Chorley; Cotwyn Bay v Bamber Bridge; Droylsden v Waton; Gainsborough v Fnckley; Guiseley v Bytt; Hyde v Boston Utat, Leek v Spennymoo; Mattock v Botton; Vinsford v Accingson Stanley, First Division: Attention LR v Gretca; Curzon Astron v Affreton; Esstypped Turn v Proprietator: Flootwand v Eastwood Town v Congleton; Fleetwood v Astwortlat; Great Harwood v Farsley Cattic; Harwood v Farsley Cattic; Harwood v Farsley Cattic; Harwood v Leigh RMI; Whatley Bay v Workington.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier Di-Vision: Atherstone v Worcester; Baldock V Suthery Town; Chelmstond v Hastings; Chelmstond v Hastings; Chetentium v Menthyr Tydfil; Crawley v Gravesend & Northseet, Dorchester v Gloucster; Gresley Rovers v Stafford; Halesouen fown y Burnon; Bleston v VS Rug-by, Newpart ArC v Saisbury; Rushden & Diamonds v Cambridge City, Middland Di-vision: Bedworth v Nuneaton; Buckingham Toon v Rethaet; Everham v Bridgnorth Granthern v Chert Leaders Turn v Red. Granthem v Corby, Hincidey Town v Bed druch; King's Lynn v Bury Town; Moor Green v Sutton Coldfield; Paget Rangers v Sob-huli; Racing Club Manuck v Lestester Utd. Slourbridge v Number V Lestester Utd. tourbridge v Dudley, Tamworth v Briston-contains Divisions Astrond v Enth & re; Braintree y Sittingbourne; C/1 Y Cevedon; Fisher y Waterlooville: Fleer v Witney: Havant v Fareham; Mar-gaze v Kontride; Nowpor; John v Weymouth; Poole v Bashley: Weston-super Mare v Trow-bridge; Yare v Forest Green.

REAT MELS I EAGLE Premier Division-Sactoned v Old Down; Baseford v Pauston Rovers; Bristof Manor Farm v Tomington; more v Bridport, Les Phillips Cup semi-

Today's pools check

3.0 unless stated FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP 3 Coventry y Liverpool ...

5 Manchester City v Manchester Utd 6 Newcastle v QPR 7 Notim Forest v Kottenham moton v Blackbum ..

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION 10 Barnsley y Sund

11 Birmingham v Port Vale.... 12 Crystal Palace v Leicester 13 Huddersfield v Southend 14 Ipswich v Reading..... 15 Oldham v Derby..... 16 Sheffield Utd v Wolves

HEREWARD LINETED COUNTIES LEAGUE

Premier Division: Bourne v Stotfold; Co-genhoe v Raunds; Eynesbury v Holbeach; gennoe v reamos; cynesoury v rudoeach; Kempston v Stamford; Newport Pagnell v Long Bucktor, Potton v Marriese Blackstone; St Neots v Spakting; Wellingborough v Stew-arts & Lloyds Corby; Whotton v Boston Town, STONLEAD KENT LEAGUE First Divo: Canterbury v Beckenham; Corinth-Whitstebie; Darford v Faversham; Deal kestone Inwita; Fumess v Tunbridge v Folkestone immeta; rumens v chandings Wells; Greenwich Borough v Crockenhil; Herne Bay v Cray Wanderers; Sheppey v Stade Green; Thamesmead v Ramsgate. INILET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Division: Eastbourne Town v Wick, Hor-sham YMCA v Portfield; Langrey Sports v Burdess Hill; Mide Oak v Hassocks; Peace-

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE ng Malthy v North Ferriby; Ossett Town v Denaby; Sheffield v Belper, Stocksbridge v Armthorpe; Thackley v Ossett Albion. NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First NUNTH WEST CAUNT IN A PRINTED Eastwood riamery vivoriowan; unossop worth End v Mossley, Maine Road v Circheroe; Prescot v Rossendale; Salford v Skelmersdale. Chellenge Cup semi-finals first I Burscough v Holker Old Boys, Newcas

JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Di-vision: Fakenham v Cornard; Febrstowe v Wrotham; Great Yermouth v Clactor; Hadleigh v Lowestoft, March v Sudbury s: Newmarket v Woodbridge; et v Tiptree; Wisbech v Halstead. INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND AL-LIANCE: Barwell v Witerhalt; Blakenall v Stapenhit; Boldmere St Michaels v Oldbury; Swifts v Rushall Olympic; Chas usen v Pershore; Halescoren Hemers v Ro-cester, krypersiev Viccoria v West Midlands Police: Sandwell Borough v Hanckley Ath-letic; Shepshed Dynamo v Shahal. FEDERATION BOCUMEN FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN FEDERATION BREWENT THAT HEATH INCOME FOR THE STATE OF THE STATE OF THE STATE OF STATE OF THE STA

19 Watford v Portsmouth.

SECOND DIVISION

21 Brentford v Crew Chesterfield v Stockbort

27 Oxford Utd v Blackpool 30 Swindon v Notts County 31 Watsall v Bristol City

THERD DIVISION 33 Barnet v Northampton

35 Cambridge Utd v Rochdale

PRESS AND JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Brora Rangers v Deveroniale; Clachnacuddin v Naim County; Eigin City v Huntly; Forres Mechanics v Fraserburgh; tenth v Peterhead; Lossiemouth v Cove gers; Wick Academy v Buckie Thistle SMIRNOFF RISH LEASUE Premier Di-vision: Bangor v Glenavor; Citionville v La-field; Crusaders v Ards; Portadown v Glenavan, First Division: Ballyclare v Carrick; Distillery v Ballymena; Larne v Col-eraine; Omagh v Newry.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Holy-well; Atan Lido v Connah's Quay, Barry v Lianeli; Briton Ferry v Portimadog, Cemaes BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF BRELAND Pro-

mier Division: Galway v Deny City (7.0). FAI HARP LAGER CUP Semi-final: Sign Rovers v Shetbourne (7.15). VARSITY MATCH: Oxford v Carriondge (1.0)

Rugby Union 3.0 unless stated

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Cardiff Barbarians (2.30).

COURAGE CLUBS' CHAMPIONSHIP Notional Langue One: Bath v Harier v Bristol (2.15); Lescester łasps; Sale v Saracens; West Harriepoo v Oreil. National League Two: London bish v Bedford; London Scottish v Blackheath; Moseley v Wekefield; Northampton v Newcastle Gosforth: Waterloo v Nottingham National League Three Covertry v Har-rogets, Fylde v Rugby, Morley v Richmond; Reading v Odey, Rochertzm v Rosslyn Park. National League Four; Olfon v Pymoutic Exeter v Liverpool St Heiers; Leeds v Re-druth; London Welsh v Hasant; Walsali v

HENEKEN WELSH LEAGUE First Divi-HENERKEN WELST LEAGUE First Divi-sion: Aberallery v Neath (2.30); Bridgend v Laneth (2.30); Newbridge v Erbiw Vale (2.30); Newbort v Treordry (2.30); Pon-typridd v Swierresa (2.30); Second Divi-sion: Coephiliy v Maeserg (2.30); Dumant v Aberophon (2.30); Landouery v Ystradg-yniais (2.30); Porthypod v Cross Keys (2.30); South Wates Police v Llanharan (2.30); Entire life v Boostmen (2.30); Tenby Utd v Bonymaen (2.30).

40 Lincoln City v Exeter. 41. Plymouth v Darlingto 42 Preston v Doncaster

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CLIP Aberdeen v Hea

RELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

46 Falkirk v Rarth Rovers P Postponed (Pools panel will adjudicate). FIRST DIVISION

Stewarty, Royal High v Tinnity Acads. Se and Division: Ardrossan Acads v Aberder St Boswells v Hutchesons Aloysians. Thi Division: Pasley v Annan.

Division: Pasiey v Arman.
INSURANCE CORPORATION IRISH
LEAGUE First Division: Blackrock College
v Old Wesley (2.30); Cork Constitution v
Ballymena (2.30); Larsdowne v Garryowen
(2.30); Shannon v Old Belvedere (2.30);
Young Munister v St Many's College (2.30);
Second Division: Bective Rangers v Sunday's Well (2.30); Dolphin v NFC (2.30);
Dungannon v Wanderers (2.30); Malone CLUB MATCHES: Glasdow Acads y Gla

gow Southern; Lichfield v Tamworth; Lyd-ney v Hereford; Wharfedale v Hull forsens; Winnington Park v Camp Hull; Broughton

Hockey EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUPS: Mear Guidiord v Bohemans Praha (Cz Rep) (at The Hisgue), Women: Hightown v Libertas Saba (It) (at Rotterdam).

MENT (Paris): Mex: Under-18: Nether-lands v Engand. Under-18: France v Engand. Women: Under-18: Engand v Natherlands. Linder-16: Nestherlands v England.

FOLKESTONE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL-(10.45-5.30) NATIWEST BLACKPOOL FESTIVAL: (10.0-8.0) ENGLISH RIVIERA FESTIVAL: (10.0-6.0) (Tompley, Paignton & Broham). WEYMOUTH FESTIVAL: (9.30-6.0).

Basketball

Speedway

Budweiser LEAGUE: Laicester v Derby 17:30:; Manchester v Chester (7:30): Hemel v Sheffeld (7:30): Thames Valley v London

PREMIERSHIP First leg: Bracford v East-

PREMIER LEAGUE: Swindon v Coversty

WEEKS: Rose Rose (3.30) River Tramps.

MOTORCYCLING: 31551 Superave Champun-

SECOND DIVISION 55 Avr v Oceen of the South

Sherry said. "He's a printer."

57 Montrose v Stenhousemust - Stranvaer v Clyde THIRD DIVISION

Alloa v Queen's Park .. Arbroath v Cowdenbeath . Caledonian Thistle v East Stirling Livingston v Ross County

Tomorrow TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP

Ceinc v Rangers (4.0) .

Football

TABLE TENNIS: English Open (F TOMORROW

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE First Division: Durham v Chester-

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND Pro-

EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP: Meac Guildford v Durkhermer (Ger) (at The Hegue). Women: Hightown v Rotterdam (Neth) (at Rot-SIX NATIONS INTERNATIONAL TOURNA

SIX NATIONS: Men: Under-126: Scotland v England. Under-18: Scotland v England. Women: Under-18: England v France. Un-der-16: Germany v England. FOLKESTONE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: (10.45-5.30); Festival XI v Royal Uccle (Bel) 72-20. NATWEST BLACKPOOL FESTIVAL: (10.0-8.0). ENGLISH RIVERA FESTIVAL: (1.45-6 0) (Torquey, Pagriton & Braham).

MEMACKITH FESTIVAL: Women's final (1.30);

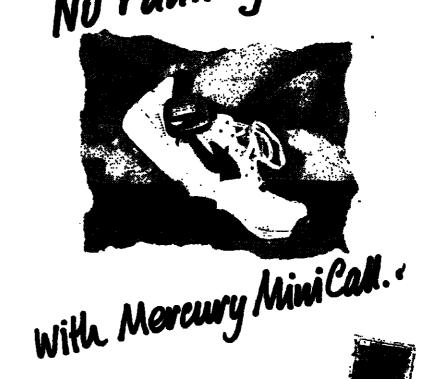
Basketball

BUDWESER LEAGUE: Chester v Thames Valley (5.0); Doncsser v Birmingham (5.30); London v Manchester (5.0); Newcastle v Leopards (5.20); Sheffield v Worthing (5.45).

Speedway BRITISH UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP out lifying rounds: Linkthgon (3.0); Smingb

Other sports SNOOKER: Snish Open (1.0) (Phymouth Paul-SQUASH: Logices British Open (5.0) (Cardiff). TABLE TENNIS: English Open (Kettering Arc-

dent involving Chelsea skipper Wise and United midfielder Roy Keane during the FA Cup semi-final at Villa Park. Without wishing to sound cond, I can't see myself playing. in the Endsleigh League. I'm only SAVE ECHO PRODUCTS
ON SELECTED ECHO 30 J. SE UCTS No running wsts.



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sport

Budgets substantial enough to buy most of the clubs in the Endsleigh League have been lavished on mini-epics mote the cause of Giggs as it does

Drawing breath was hard enough at half-time on Wednesday night as Liverpool and Newcastle exhausted themselves in the scramble to hand the championship on a plate to Manchester United. But, despite the need for refreshment, only the foolish would have relinquished their seats in front of the television and disappeared kitchenwards in search of a cup of tea. To have done so would have been to miss the great new attraction of Sky's football coverage: the ad break. By chance, over the last fortnight, half a dozen glamorous, glossy and glittering commercials have made their bows on Sky. And they all have one thing

in common: football. Endless hours of creative brainpower, sufficient footage of film to envelope Wembley and budgets substantial enough to buy most of

have been expended on mini-epics so astonishing they make Braveheart appear small-time (actually the commercial for the high street tandoori at our local cinema makes Braveheart look unambitious, but that's another story.) Least effective of the new attractions is the one in which a woman, driven to fury by the manner in which her lover prefers to lavish his attention on a match on the telly rather than her, starts to throw his possessions out of the window. He's finally moved to stop her when she tries to defenestrate his new Puma boots. The plot may be more clichéd than an Alan Shearer half-time analysis.

Better is Coca-Cola's unlikely claim that the entire world is as obsessed by its product as it is by football. The ad works though, if only

the clubs in the Endsleigh League because cunningly cut actuality footage of speciators around the world reminds those of us used to the game at home being played out in front of silent, polite family audiences that, in Turkey for instance, a vibrant, bouncing, fire-cracking crowd is all part of the spectacle. Such a docu-mentary style is evident in Carlsberg's commercial showcasing the athletic talents of entrants to the company's pub football cup. Not since Danny Baker's much lamented series which brought us Sunday league games from Hackney Marshes have beer bellies and football been brought together with such devotion.

And then there's the two new blockbusters for boots. First off is Nike's surreal update of the old Peter Cook and Dudley Moore sketch in which good took on evil in a representative cricket match (you reJim White



ON SATURDAY

member it: Adolf Hitler's bowling action should have been reported to Lord's). In the Nike version Maldini, Cantona and Wright defend the beautiful game against a useful looking squad of nasties including Beelzebub, Mephistopheles and SaReebok's astonishing celeb-fest starring Vic, Bob, Sting, Sir Dickie and the rest all drooling about how they would love to be in Ryan Giggs's boots. Particularly, apparently, if the boots were stuffed in Jimmy Hill's mouth at the time.

This bloom of footie commercials is an unexpected by-product of Sky's Premier stranglehold. With the guar-anteed delivery of a couple of million football fans, plus the slacker rules regulating advertising on satellite, it becomes worthwhile to spend a bit to lure this captive audience. No point, though, simply running stan-dard sales pitches for the kind of item which might appeal to football fans. The way to the fans' pocket appears to be to hitch your product to the coat-tails of the game itself, to leech

tan (Rov Keane was clearly busy on the day of filming). Finally there's thing and hope that you become glamorous by association.

And the really odd thing is that

it all becomes circular. A sort of arms race develops among companies seeking to out-do their rivals: spend more, look better by spending more and then tell everyone how much you have spent. A whole marketing strategy - a sort of junior Hollywood hype operation - is based around the cost and scale of the ad. Tabloid back pages become willing accomplices in delivering acres of free publicity about how expensive your new ad is in the weeks before it is unveiled. And of course the matches, crowds and most particularly the players featured in your mega-budget epic become even more glamourous as a result; the commercial for Reebok. for instance, works as much to pro-

his boots. And as for Eric Cantona, he has become the first footballer ever to have his image entirely created by an advertising agency. Apart from the occasional court appearance, the only public utterances the player makes these days is scripted

by the spin doctors at Nike. As yet no company has been brave enough to do it, but we will soon reach the stage when an outfit will decide to promote itself via the endorsement of Iain Dowie. With the application of plenty of money, and wonderfully lit, beautifully directed commercial played out on Sky, he could be positioned in the public imagination as a sexy player and thus the boots he wears be regarded as the ones to be seen in. Well, perhaps not Iain Dowie, but vou get my drift.

Rough and ready Oxford possess the will to win

Public sentiment, as expressed in the money placed at the bookies, has it that Cambridge will lift the Beefeater Trophy for the 142nd Boat Race. It is certainly a close call. Cambridge, having won the last three races, and with last year's winning stroke as well as five men who have won the reserves' race against Isis, some by embarrassing margins, were bound to be strong. This was reinforced when the last two seats went to experienced oarsmen, Ethan Ayer and Nick Burfitt.

Hugh Matheson suggests that the Dark Blues can upset the odds today

the coaching team and the internal structure after their years of dominance were ended in 1993. Penny Chuter was brought in from the national team as chief coach to do the day-to-day training with Daniel Topolski to provide his extraordinary brand of inspiration and nous as director of coaching. The legacy of oarsmen

THE 142nd BOAT RACE

The Tideway

DRH Clegg (Radley, MPC Bernett wersity College, London (Harrogate GS and — and Keble) 13st 12th Queen's) 13st 8 1/2th

- DR West (Dutwich College, SJ Dawson-Bowfing (King's, King's College, London & St. Canterbury and Magitalene) Catherine's College) 1.3st 3lb 1.4st 12fb

_IW Howeck (Dartmouth College, Concordia Univ and Keble) 13st 4lb and Keble) 13st 4lb

Stroke: ARA Frost Stroke: JFE Ball (King's

(Eton College and School, Chester and Oriel) 14st 2 1/2lb Robinson) 1.3st 38b

Cambridge

Oxford have been rebuilding was, however, poor. Two losing Blues were back and the men coming in from Isis had gone down to a near-record defeat.

The Dark Blues are fortunate that four north Americans arrived in October to beef up a squad with a cluster of British under-23 and junior international medallists. The find of the year has been Adam Frost, at stroke. He refused to row un-

til his first-year exams in Politics, Philosophy and Economics were over. He did, however, take a weight training programme from Chuter last Easter, and has put on a stone and a half of muscle since. His value to the crew is, according to the cox, Todd Kristol, as "a thoughtful, intuitive stroke who is more level-headed and con-

sistent than some of the others. Behind him is Paul Berger who stroked the losing trial eight but proved his worth in a tight situation, bringing his crew back to an eight-foot deficit at the end of the four and a half mile course. The stern pair, combined with the highly assertive cox, Kristol, give a strong lead to a crew which has been well drilled by Chuter. The telling feature is that Oxford look like an older crew than Cambridge do, although the Dark Blues are in fact the junior by an average of four months.

The Cambridge crew are similarly balanced with the stern pair, James Ball and Rob Waller, both under-23 world champions, and winners in all the Ólympic pairs trials this winter. The cox, Kevin Whyman, was at school in Chester with Ball - these three are the nerve centre of the crew along with Nick Burfitt, the 29-year-old double Olympian, in the bows.

The Cambridge boat have only ventured two side-by-side matches, with Imperial College and Notts County, and have looked good, particularly against County. The Light Blues have proved their speed off the start - but this is not enough evidence to overturn the suspicion that Oxford, sometimes the more rough and ready of the two, will have the sustainable pace to counter-attack along the course and get in front for the second half

The crews will be alongside for longer than in most years. It could be a classic and, in the year that True Blue, the film of the 1987 mutiny, opens, it will be Oxford that end up in front.

India's Singapore slings and arrows of fortune



Indian star: Sachin Tendukar sweeps during his hundred in Singapore yesterday but India lost their Singer Cup game by eight wickets after torrential rain reduced Pakistan's original target

BOAT RACE FACTS AND FIGURES

The fastest time to complete the four and a quarter mile course from Putney to Mortlake was 16min 45sec by Oxford in 1984, the ninth of 10 successive wins by the Dark Blues. The only dead heat came on

Bow: E.J Bellamy (Hampton, ... Durham Univ & Keble) 13st 3lb

Hervard Univ and New

College) 13st 5 1/2lb

(Yale Univ and Keble) 15st 1/2lb

PA Berger (Univ of

(dege) 14st 13 1/2/b

ed Univ and Oriel)

24 March 1877. Cambridge sank in 1978 and

six years later wrote off their boat

minutes before the start of the race which led to a 24-hour

in the race was Oxford's Gavin Stewart at 6ft 812 in. Ethan Ayer in today's Cambridge crew is only half an inch shorter. Oxford also provided the

Heathcote weighed in at 17st 5lb as part of the successful 1990 crew and the oldest, Donpostponement. ald MacDonald, who was 31 The tallest man to participate when he rowed on the winning

side 10 years ago.

Sue Brown was the boat race's first woman cox in 1981 and celebrated by guiding Oxford to victory. Five years later

(Winchester College and Trinity) 13st 7 1/26

Imperial College and ST Medical School, and E

ege and St George's

- E Ayer (Harvard Univ and St Edmunds) 15st 6lb

RM Water (Emanuel School

 Cox: K Whyman (King's Chester and Peterhouse) 8st 1/2lb

13st 8 1/2b

Carole Burton became the first, and so far only, woman to cox a Cambridge crew to a win.

The BBC first broadcasted a running commentary in 1927 while, last year, the event was broadcast to 160 countries. Today's domestic live audience will be approximately 10 million.

Promising start for Guildford

BILL COLWILL

Guildford's first European competition since they finished a disappointing eighth in The Hague in 1979 got off to a promising start back in the Dutch capital vesterday when they beat SKA Ekaterinburg, of Russia, 3-1 in their opening game in the Cup-Winners' Cup.

Guildford's goalkeepercaptain, Kevin Priday, was

quickly in action as the Russians der considerable pressure, they opened strongly, having to make a couple of fine reaction saves in the opening minutes, before Guildford took the lead in 22nd minute. A well-placed free hit from player-coach Ian Jennings, out on the right, found Danny Hall moving in to

score the opening goal.

Although Ekaterinburg equalised through their captain, Mikhail Lutiko, at a penalty corner six minutes into the second

half as Guildford were put un-

2.40 HACCOMBE SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS

G) £3,100 added 2m 5f 110yds

held firm, with substitute Graham Cartmell giving them the RAF winger scored after good work down the right by Roger Wall. The discarded Great Britain striker Don Williams ran 75 yards through the Russian defence to score a fine solo goal with just two minutes remain-

ing to complete the scoring.
Scotland's Gordonians were out of luck in their opening ans. Dinamo Sumi, 4-1 with two game, losing 1-0 to a 52nd-goals from Tina Cullen.

minute goal from Alberto Marillion for the Soaniards of Valdeluz, Gordonians cause was lead in the 51st minute. The not helped by the temporary suspension of Paul Doney and Andrew Milne late in the game, as the Scots fought back. Host club HDM beat CA de Montrouge. the French champions, 2-0.

In the Women's A Division, after delays for torrential rain. Hightown came from behind at the interval to beat the Ukraini-

A STATE OF THE STA

and the same of th

Town Town

heaviest competitor when Chris

TOWCESTER 2.20 River Challenge 2.50 Curldy Dale 3.20 ME 0'The Rags 3.50 Drumstick 4.20 Call Home 4.50 North-em Star

GOING: Good to Firm (Firm patches).

Right-hand, unchaining circuit. Rint-in of 140yd.

Course is on A5 SE of town. Bus service from Northampton raflway station. ADMISSION: Members S112; Temersalis SS; Course 24 (Car plus all occupants S151. CAR PARK: Free. WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE RINNERS: Positive Action (3.50) has been sent 228 miles by M Burnes from Little Saliedd, Cumbra.

2.20 NEW NORTHANTS FM NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m

2.50 31st YEAR OF THE SCHILIZZI 1906 COMMEMORATIVE CUP (HANDICAP CHASE) (CLASS C) £6,500 added 2m 6f BISHOPS ISLAND (50) Mes H Kngft 10 11 10 _G F Ryen (5)
CUDDY DALE (28) G Hubbard 13 11 6 _____ K Gaude (3)
POLAR RESION (33) N Hendesson 10 11 1__Mr C Vigora (5)
HALLWALK (22) (CD) R Carts 10 10 6 _____ D Hombs
STRAMORE (80) O Bernan 9 10 4 _____ Mt Bresson
_ 5 declared _

-- a opcured -BETING: 6-4 Mahops Island, 7-4 Cuddy Dele, 7-2 Wilwalk, 10-1 Stranore, 25-1 Poler Region

3.20 PETER SCUDAMORE 200TH WINNER H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £3,000 2m

203551 PYRAMES PRINCE (16) (D) | Whyte 6 11 12 _____ C Rae (T) 14-000P TWICE THE GROUN (15) (D) R Lee 6 11 4 _____ R Greene

- 10 declared
Minimum religio: 10st. True handicap weight: 9st 13th.

BETTING: 3-1 Pyramis Prince, 4-1 MBi O'The Regs. 5-1 Major's Law, 6-1 SETTING: 3-1 Pyramis Prince, 4-1 has U lies regs. 5-1 may Zerodar, 7-1 Alami Solt III, 8-1 Dark Silhouette, 12-1 citiers

3.50 35th YEAR OF THE SCHILIZZI CHALLENGE BOWL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 2m 110yds

4.20 EMPRESS ELIZABETH OF AUSTRIA HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,000 3m 1f 1 11-263F HERBRES SMARNEST (23) (CD) D WELDES S 12 10 ... Mr 1 Cultory (CS) 2 PF115-1 CALL HOME (27) (C) Macs S Edwards S 124 ... Mr 7 Halls (7) 3 F340-UP MEN WILL HOUSE (5) (D) Mess S Code 13 12 0 ... Mr P Scott (7) 4 35522P WINDY WAYS (336) (CD) N Hercesco 11 12 0 ... Mr C Vigora (5)

– 4 deciared – 4 Herman Hervest, 2-1 Windy Ways, 50-1 New 4.50 GRACE INTERMEDIATE OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,550 added 2m

PERFIX LARK (15) R Lee 8 11 - SHOFT POREY (3) D Waters 6 11 4.... ELLE D Wodams 5 10 13 00 NERD'S GEM (38) C lackson 5 10 13 W H

NEWTON ABBOT 1.40 Myblackthorn 2.10 Castle Secret 2.40 Mirage

Dancer 3.10 Frogmarch 3.40 Son Of A Gunner 4.10 Plastic Spaceage 4.40 Indian Delight GOING: Good to Soft (Soft in places).

Left-hand, sharp, course with short run-in.

Course is N of town on A380. Newton Abbot station im. ADMISSION:
Tattersalls 58.50; Course 54. CAR PARK: On rails \$1.50, remainder free.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Name.
LONG-DISTANCE SUNNERS: Nameste (3.10) & Woodlands Boy (4.10) have been seat 100 miles by R Hood from Lewes, East Sussex.

— 16 declared — BETTIVE: 5-2 highlackthorn, 6-1 Come Dance With Me, 19-1 Sight's Sound, 12-1 Temperature Raing, Love in the lifts, Trelamneys Dream, 14-1 others

2.10 ST AUSTELL CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,700 added 3m 3f 627656 JADRIN (17) (5) C WADTER 8 11 10 _____ 501323 WHITEBOWNET (7) (BF) C Egenon 6 11 10 P:3FR2U BALLYDOUGAN (7) P Not 06 8 11 7 _____ 2041-04 CASTLE SECRET (43) D Burchel 10 11 5

13*11.0 SOPHISM (27) M Per 7 22 0
13*11.0 SOPHISM (27) M Per 7 22 0
14*21.1 DIESEL PRINCE (448) C Egenon 9 11 13
20059 1110M0 PM (15) A Barow 12 11 11 ...
(PF-4P) GOLDEN OPN. (15) R Bucker 11 11 10
556214 NATHER (15) (8) P Burde 10 11 4
1556214 NATHER (15) (8) P Burde 10 11 4
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1556214 N 40-F21.373 PENNEW PASS (13) D Williams 7 11 0 P Holle 4-5330P RUNEW SHARP (37) (C) C Pophern 10 10 13 A Timoribo FALL-OF EMBLEF BUOV (73) J Mains 8 10 10 S Commo (5 PPS-310 MPCCARLE THORS (18) (D) O O'Neil 13 10 9 Me A Nithchell (7 0093-61 BUODIG MATCH (280) J M Badley 9 10 8 Goy Lovels (2

3.10 SOUTH WEST RACING CLUB CHALLENGE TRO-PHY (CLASS C) (HANDICAP HURDLE) £5,000 added 2m 1f added 2m 1f

121.405 FORGMARCH (24) (D) J Etherics 8 12 0...
51112 FORGMARCH (14) (B) R Philips 6 11 13 ...
10320- SDOTHFAST (394) J Old 7 11 3 ...
43120 BG STRAND (16) M Ppo 7 11 2 ...
43120 BG STRAND (16) M Ppo 7 11 2 ...
40321 HOLDMARCHSE (24) (C) R Frost 6 10 12 ...
2 31052 NAMASTE (31) (CD) R Hood 8 10 12 ...
412.431 JOSEPNA (16) (D) M McComach 5 10 8 ...
3 72001 HE'S A KING (26) (D) C Pophen 6 10 6 ...
6 1127 TOLICH SLYPER (22) (D) H Monrous 6 10 0... ...G Lipton 011221 TOUCH SILVER (12) (D) H Manners 6 10 0 536114 WEST ORBENT (150) 0 0 West 11 10 0 Minimum weight: 10st. True handstep weights: Touch Saver 9st 10th, West Chient Str 12th. BETURNE: 9-4 Programment, 7-2 Holdmichese, 6-1 Touch Säver, 6-1 Big Strand, Fourth In Line, 12-1 Joseffin, Nameste, 14-1 others

3.40 DARTMOOR CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,100 added

2m 6f 0P-03P2 ARYMANN (7) M Pipe 6 12 0... PO THE INGLIMASTER (80) J USSOT 5 12 0 ... 060-U1P SON OF A GURGER (4) J Naulie 5 11 13 ... 0/43-542 MISS NOSEY OKTS (32) (87) N Burke 8 11 10 ... 0002-63 WIN A HAND (16) 8 Ryal 6 10 12 20-PO3 SHARP PENN (16) H Ower 7 10 8 ...

04.3221 (TS GRAND (S) J Bradley 7 10 2. PURSPP ALFION (30) C Weedon 7 10 0... 5030 MU-TADE, (30) R Baker 4 10 0... 002/004 SURCICAL SPIRIT (12) Jame Poulton 6 10 0 . – 12 necesred – Majmum welgh: 10st. True handsop welghs: Mo-Tabl 9st 12th, Bengaren 9st 3th, Sur-Spell Spirit Set (In. BETTING: 5-2 Addymann, 7-2 Miss Nosey Oats, 5-1 Stao-Politaidh, Son of A Gen-ner, 12-1 Sharp Pean, Win A Hand, its Grand, 20-1 others 4.10 TOUCH OF SPRING HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,150 added 3m 2f 110yds 53(111 ALLO GEORGE (15) (CD) A Newcombe 10 10 12

BELTIN	Œ 3-Ž I	– 14 declared – nt: 10st. True handcap weght: Holy Sting 9st 13ib. Passile Spaceage, 9-2 Alio George, 6-1 Coloumy (Boy, 14-1 Florida Sky, Holy Sting, 16-1 others	loy, 7-1 Keano,
4.4	40	DARTMOOR MAIDEN OPEN NH (CLASS H) £1,550 added 2m 1f	FLAT RAC
1	65	BLAZENG DOVE (14) R Price 5 11 6	A Thornts
2	0	BRAVE EDWEN (28) 3 Okt 6 11 6	G 15-ab
3	5	CAPTAIN WALTER (56) J CM 6 11 6	S Meite
4	46	CHARLE PARROT (107) M. Pipe 6 11 6	D. Reichbarri
5	0	CHESTERS NAP (15) M Page 5 11 6	R Monre (
6	5	FLAXLEY WOOD (21) Mrs H Perror: 5 11 6	S Curran (
7	-	REDUCH DELICHT (14) M Pipe 6 11 6	
7 8	40	MURLINITOR (24) R Rowe 5 11 6	Mr P C'Xaolio (
9	0	SOPHIES DREAM (8) J M Bradley 5 11 6	D Fortt
10	0	SPRING DOUBLE (77) N Twiston-Davies 5 11 8	
11	33	WARNER FOR PLAYERS (16) (BP) P Hotels 5 11 6	
12	80	GROWINGEE (29) I George 5 11 1	19-20
13	0	TOOTSIE TRUE (28) D Burchel 5 11 1	D C Ducci
14	8	VITA HUOVA (16) L G Cottrel S 11 1	
15	m	INSIGUERORDINATE (14) R Judies 4 11 0	U BESTORS
16	~~	HARMAN CONTROL CONTROL OF THE STATE OF THE S	in minini
74	w	AMAZON HEIGHTS (35) L Comes 4 10 9	
4.00	un. n 4	- 16 declared -	_
DEJ 11	ar 2-1	Charlie Pariot, 4-1 Warner For Players, 7-1 Capt	alo Welter, 10-1

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No.

Sil Sila a Smart answer to big boys

Racing. GREG WOOD

If you spot a besuited figure with a serious expression in the background at Kempton today, that will be the local trading standards officer, ready to pounce if anyone describes one of the three-year-old events as a Classic trial. In theory, the Masaka Stakes, for fillies, and the Easter Stakes are the first steps on a road which leads to Newmarket on Guineas weekend, four weeks from now. In at two. practice, they are a chance for clever trainers to win a Listed

the serious animals appear.

event with a second-rater before

HAYDOCK 1.30: DOUBLE ECLIPSE, who developed into a smart stayer last year, finishing third to Further Flight in the Group 3 Jockey Club Cup at Newmarket on his final start, should make short work of today's rivals if anywhere near fil.

2.00: PENNY A DAY, in good form 2.30: KUNUCU, hampered before over hurdles this winter and a reditable 91/2 lengths third to Juyush in the Doncaster Shield at the Lincoln meeting, can concede

scurity. In fact, the apparently insignificant Durante Stakes threw up a much more polished performer, in John Gosden's Presenting, but this too will surely prove to be the exception rather than the rule.

Just four of the field for the Masaka still hold the 1,000 Guineas entry, and these include the ever-optimistic Clive Brittain's Miss Universal, who was unsighted on both her starts

One runner at least, however, is her stable's No 1 hope for Classic success, for the simple reason that she is their only Between them, last year's hope. Sil Sila won both her starts winners, Subya and Two at two, a maiden when she

HYPERION'S

finishing 71/4 lengths (ourth to Mub-

hij in Ascot's Group 3 Cornwallis

Stakes last October, may turn the ta-

bles on second-placed Westcourt

Magic on 51b better terms.

25-1. She was overlooked by punters on each occasion simply because Bryan Smart, who prepares Sil Sila at a small yard in Lambourn, is not the sort of

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Penny A Day (Haydock 2.00) NB: Elshabiba (Kempton 4.15)

trainer who is supposed to have good Flat horses.

Like many other handlers who do not enjoy the patronage of the Maktoum brothers, though, Smart is more than capable of getting the best from a useful horse which the

KEMPTON

3.15: ANTHELIA, who stayed on

well to finish 13/4 lengths third to

Blue Iris in the Redcar Two-Year-Old Trophy over six furlongs last Oc-

tober, is bred (by Distant Relative) to be suited by this trip.

3.45: CRIEFS SONG, who has

been in good form over hurdles this

winter, notably when winning the William Hill Handicap Hurdle at

Sandown in November, is potentially

capable of much better than he has

shown on the Flat so far.

4.15: LINE DANCER, two lengths third to the subsequent Royal Lodge Stakes winner Mons in the Listed Washington Singer Stakes over sev-en furlongs at Newbury in August before finishing 21/4 lengths second to Glory Of Dancer in the Group 1 Gran Criterium in Milan in November, is proven at this trip and should make a useful three year-old.

4915: NAVAL HUNTER, who looked much-improved when landing a ell maiden on Fibresand recently, is fairly handicapped.

the 1,000 Guineas, and Tamnia, runner-up in the Group One Moyglare Stud Stakes last year, will provide a stern test of her Classic credentials. John Duneven years, while River Keen, lop's filly is likely to start among the market leaders today, but Sil Sila (3.15) has surprised back-

ers before and can do so again. Line Dancer, another to finish second in Group One company as a juvenile, is the obvious form choice in the Easter Stakes, but the less exposed Wood Magic (4.15) makes more appeal. David Loder, his trainer, was all but unbeatable in the early months of last season.

The Queen's Prize Handicap, over two miles, is by some admirably for the Marchioness

O'Clock Jump, managed just two more victories in 10 outings started at 50-1 and then a List- Sheikhs have somehow man- distance the day's most interesting event from a punting with the excellent claimer with th With the excellent claimer Sil Sila is available at 40-1 for point of view. A surprising Matthew Henry now taking number of the 18 runners are hold of the reins, he has an outnot certain to see out the trip standing chance this afternoon and others have not shown and is a tempting 20-1 with Ladtheir best form for months or brokes at morning odds.

> three times a winner on the allprice will be Double Eclipse weather this winter, never runs (1.30) in the opener at Haydock, nearly so well on turf. a race which should be a for-Proton will find supporters mality before Double Trigger's simply because he is trained by full brother moves on to more Reg Akehurst, who won this race last year with Wishing, but serious matters in the season's top marathon events. this season's candidate surely has too much weight. The like-

> Out On A Promise (next best 2.00) will enjoy the step ly winner is at the other end of the list, where STALLED (nap 3.45) is set to carry just 7st 11lb. up to 12 furlongs, while even under a penalty, Westcourt Magic (2.30), who is ideally the list, where STALLED (nap 3.45) is set to carry just 7st 11lb. Peter Walwyn's gelding stays two suited by the minimum trip, miles well and has been running should take the Field Marshal

A stayer at a rather shorter

	QU	EEN'	S P	RL	ZΕ	- 1	. O - Y	ΈA	R-T	ÄŁI	=	
			1986	87	88	. 89	90	91	-92	93	94	95
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Witner's	lace ir	batting	. .0	1	2.	2	.0	0.	0.	0	· O	0
Starting pal	COS	٠٠	33-1	54	11.7	112	25:1	14-1	132	12-1	16-1	141
Ages:	· .		5	5	-6	5	4		. 5	7	4	. 4
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Longost p	riced i	diner:	Mitton B	turil 3	311	1986)				٠.		· ::
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KEMPTON

2.15 Tria Kemata 2.45 GREEN BARRIES (nap) 4.45 Naval Hunter

3.15 Anthelia GOING: Good. STALLS: Straight - far side; Im 1f - outside; rest - made. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 5f and 6f.

Right-hand course. Separate straight course for 5f and 6f races. Practically Bat. Run-in of 200yd.

m of 200yd.

Rececourse is on A308 at Stanbury. Bus link from Richmond Underground station. Kempton Park ratiway station adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club \$15, Jamers (16 to 25-year-olds) \$12, Grandstand \$10; Silver Ring \$5. Accompanied children under-16 free. Parking: Members car park \$10 (limited and must be pre-booked), Centre car park free. CAR PARK: Members \$2; remainder, free. SIS

HYPERION

3.45 Chief's Song

4.15 Line Dancer

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: R Hannon - 31 winners from 267 numers at a ratio of 12.1% giving a return to a \$1 level stake of -\$17.38; J Dunlop - 16 winners, 119 ranners, 13.4% -\$10.27; R Chariton - 12 winners, 54 runners, 22.2% +\$17.48; J Gooden - 12 winners, 69 runners, 17.4% -\$10.68; P Cole - 11 winners, 84 runners, 13.1%, \$7.59; R Thomson Jones - 10 winners, 43 runners, 23.3%, +\$30.80; J Panshawe - 10 winners, 55 runners, 18.2%, +\$31.19.

55 rinners, [8.2%, +531.19.

ILEADING JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery - 36 winners, 185 rides, 19.5%, +535.37; T Qainn - 28 winners, 196 rides, 14.3%, -530.30; L Dentori - 21 winners, 157 rides, 13.4%, -519.84; W Carson - 16 winners, 147 rides, 10.9%, -546.67; R Cochrame - 16 winners, 158 rides, 10.1%, -510.58; M Roberts - 16 winners, 143 rides, 11.2%, -548.30.

BLINKERED FOR THE FIRST TIME: Chief's Song (3.45); Bagle Canyon (4.45).

WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: Mister Aspecto (4.45) win at Southwell on Monthy, UNIG-DISTANCE RUNNERS; Green Barries (2.45), Mister Aspecto (4.45) & Gothenburg (4.15) sent 245 miles from M Johnston's Middleham stable in North Yorkshire.

1995: Amaretto Bay 2 9 0 B Dryle 16-1 (B Meehan) 20 rar

FORM GUIDE

Richard Hannon won this with Sharp 'N Early (1988), Lavel Xing (1990) and Pips Pride (1992) and this time fields Downy, a daughter of first-season size Rudimenatary and out of a mare who won over nine furious's at two and is half-sister to high-class Mejestic Prince. However, this may go to another of Rudimenary's produce in RIDDE AWAKENING, representing the Geoff Levis-Pat Eddey combination which struck with Billio at Ungled on Thursday. A 42,000 gris yearing, he is out of a good winner-producing mare in Final Call who had a useful two-year-old last term in the same stable's Anotheranniversary. Selection: RUDE AWAKENING

2.15 DURANTE STAKES (CLASS C) £7,650 added 310 1m 2f Penalty Value £4,583

FORM CUEDE

TRIA KEMATA can concede weight all round. The son of kns and Rubblesdale heroine Third Watch buildined earlier promise when he made all at Lencester in September on his fourth strengt, winding up with a third of four behind Believe Me and Builfinch at York in October, beaten only a neck and half a length. Prince of thy Heart, may be the danger. Barry Hills's charge struck form at York on his penulomate stant, defeating Racing Post Trophy fourth tamus a length and three-quarters with a sux length ago to the third, he probably found the ground too fast when last of six to West-A-Munute at Pometract on his final stant. Maddem Steinhein, a stablemate of Prince Of My Heart, finished five lengths clear of the third when a two-length runner-up behind Babrida at Newmarket in October on the lost of only three outings and is open to improvement.

EN ELIZABETH HANDICA	AP (CLASS C) £7,650 added 3YO
enalty Value EE A27	- (0.2 0) (0.0

عا	-70	6f Penalty Value £5,427
1	455241-	NORWEGIAN BLUE (191) (D) (Ambross Tumbul) A Janes 9 7 Tate 11
2	262103-	WHITE EMR (177) Rigis Stafford) B Mashan 9.6
3	31124-3	PASSION FOR LIFE (16) (BF) (David Waters) G Levels 9 5Pat Eddary 10
4	240-	WATCH ME (239) (Salem Schall) R Hannon 8 13
5	022-1	GREEN BARRIES (14) (0) (Makeourn Al Maleourn) M Johnston 8 13
5	121-	MALLIA (338) (HT Ductin) TD Barron 8 10 Fortune 8
7	31023-0	WELSH MOUNTAIN (18) (F.) Sanstuny M. Hemon-Elis 8.9
В		ERLATT (1.63) (D) (P Richardson) G Balding 8 9 A Clark 5
9	10354-1	LITTLE NOGERIS (16) (D) (M E Half) C Dayer 8 9
10	615553-	MISSILE TOE (189) (D) (Stag and Hurtsman) J Banks 8 5
ü	00413-2	GOLDEN POND (6) (D) (John Horgan) R Johnson Houghton 8.4
12	410460-	DIL DIL (2011) (Vhenmeher) R Hannon 8 1. J F Esten 3
	- 21	DUMBLER GOLF TIME (63) (C) (Conoten Pargership) Load Humphedon 7 12 LM Heary (5) 2
ĬĀ.		ED'S FOLLY (16) Erice Devess) S Dow 7 11 J Quien 12
		= 14 declared =

Lo Grando
 Lo Grando
 Life, 9-2 Green Barries, 7-1 Little Noggles, 8-1 Durinner Solf Time, Golden Pand, 10-1 Watch Me, 12-1 Matth, Norweglen Size, White Emir, 14-1 others
1995: Katya 3 9 2 R Hughes 14-1 (M Channon) 15 ran

PASSION FOR LIFE ran brilliantly from a bad draw when favourize at Doncaster on the opening day, finishing third to Little Noggins (who was well drawn), besten half a length and a
neck. This time it is Passion for Life who has been lucky in the draw. With a 31b advantage,
he should turn around the Town Moor running and should again take are of Ed's Folty and
Welsh Mountain, who finished runth and tenth of 18.

Selection: PASSION FOR LIFE

3.15 MASAKA STAKES (CLASS A) (Listed Race) £17,000 A added 3YO fillies 1m Penalty Value £12,388

FORM GLEDE Parmot Juzgle, winner of a Redcar maiden in August, later won at Haydock only to be de-moted and she was runner-up three times, including when beaten threequarters of a length by Bint Salsabii in the Rocklel Stakes at Newmanket and the same margin by Blue Tuama by Birt Salsabil in the Rockiel Stakes at Newmantet and the same margin by Blue Juama in a Listed prize at the Capannelle. Trainals went in at Haydock (maiden) and Sandown (Listed) last July, while she was fourth behind Blushing Gleam in the Pra. du Calvados at Deeuville and beatien three pens of a length by Phony Belle in the Moyglare Stud Stakes at the Curragh. ANTHELIA can beat them both. She won her first two races at two, at Pontefract (Sh in July and at Yarmoruth (Sh in September. She improved to finish third of 22 behind Blue Ins in the san-fusing Rectar Two-Year-Old Trophy in October on her only other attempt, staying on strongly. Sli Site, who won at Warwick and decisively in Listed company at Newbury last October, and Sea Speay, who won her introduction over seven furlongs of this track in September and may have been unsuited by the ground when unplaced in the Group 1 Prix Mancel Boussac at Longohamp, can also figure. Selection: ATHEMA

3.45 QUEEN'S PRIZE HANDICAP (CLASS C) £12,000 added C4 146000- SEASONAL SPLENDOUR (170) (D A Johnson) M Pipe 6 10 0.

2	05011-1	RIVER KEEN (31) (Dr Meau Tsen Geoffrey Yeh) R Armstrong 4 9 11	
3	022100-	PROTON (154) (The Person War Partnership) R Alienust 6 9 7	S Sanders 1
4	11310-0	SALAMAN (FR) (15) (D) (Lady Cohen) J Dunion 4 9 ?	W Carson
5		CYPRESS AVENUE (166) (CT Spence-Philips) R Henron 4 9 6	R Perbecs
6	42/000-3	GOLDEN ARROW (U.S) (C) (Paul Melton) Baiding 5 9 4	C Saudder (7) 1
7	25516-0	TORCH VERT (15) (Paul Green) N Walter 4 9 2	i Stack (3) 1
8		TYPROON EIGHT (196) (Auchael Sui B Hills 4 9 0	
9	00550-0	WARM SPELL (Ed.) (K Husson) G L Moore 6 9 0	S Welchorth
面		LALINDI (15) (D) (White Horse Racing Ltd) D Escorto 5 8 11	Pat Eddery
		SEA FREEDOM (165) (Mess B Sware) G Balting 5 8 6	S Droune (3) 1
		ALIDE LA BELLE (FR) (12) (CD) (Mrs Vel Regions) S Kneft 883	A McGlone 1
		WARRIAPLANTATREE (197) (A M Tombs) N Babbase 5 8 2	A Clack
14	25-2114	UPPER MOUNT CLAIR (15) (D) (8F) (C E Brotson) C Brotson 6 8 0	B Doyle
		WITHEY-DE-BERGERAC (16) (Erne Houghton) J S Moore 480	
		CHIEF'S SOME (190) (Mrs Anne Devne) S Dow 6 7 11	Quige 1
		STALLED (16) (D) (Mrs PT Walnyo) P Walnyo 6 7 11	M Henry (5) 1
=:			

18 44/3-042 DURHAM (10) (The Secret Partnershot R Sympson 5 7 10... BETTREE: 11-2 Proton, 6-1 Salaman, 7-1 Chief's Song, 8-1 Sea 10-1 Sea Proedom, 12-1 others 1985: Wishing 4 9 2 6 Carner 3-1 (R Akehursi) 17 ran

_A Roche (3)

Top jockeye M Roberts - Sun Street (1988), Shambo (1991)

4	.15	EASTER STAKES (CLASS A) (Listed) £17,000 added CA 3YO colts & geldings 1m Penalty Value £11,981
	111040-	
!		BELIEVE ME (182) (C) (D) (Bruce Adams) R Hannon 8 8
1		BULLFINCH (182) (Robert Cooper) P Watton 8 8
ļ.	10-	CENTRE STALLS (170) (Anthony Pye-Jean) R Johnson Houghton 8 8 Reld 8
i	213106-	DANKESTON (USA) (150) (Luciano Gauccii M Bell 8 8
;	21.	ELSHWEERA (USA) (181) (Hamdan Al Maksoum) J Dunlop 88
	022145	HENORY THE FIFTH (127) (D) (A.J. Rechards) C Britain 8.8
l		LINE DANCER (150) (Adam Guney) W Javes 8 8
	12	REGENERIT (274) (Highciere Thoroughbred Racing Ltdl R Hannon 8 8
0	411-	WOOD MASIC (199) (Sheiki Mohammed) D Loter & 8D R McCabe 9
		- 10 declared -

BETTING: 3-1 Eichabha, 7-2 Line Daucer, 4-1 Wood Magic, 6-1 Belleve Ne, 8-1 Builfinch, Centre Staffs, 10-1 Dankeston, Gotherberg, 12-1 Henry The Fifth, Regiment 1995: Two O'Clock Jump 3 8 8 Pat Eddey 15-1 (R Hannon) 10 ran

winning stable but has a bit to find on juvenile form.

4.45 MIDDLESEX HANDICAP (CLASS C) £8,000 added 3YO C4

BETTENG: 4-1 Dombey, 5-1 Mister Aspecto, 6-1 Naval Hunter, 7-1 Goodwood Rocket, 8-1 Cleas Ballet, 9-1 Al Shafa, 10-1 Kilvine, 12-1 Albaha, Cleaneste, D'Nasan, Trojan Rick, 14-1 others rce 3 8 11 R Hughes 20-1 (M Channon) 17 ran FORM GUIDE

Mister Aspecto has been in cracking form at all-weather meetings and may defy the 5k penalty incurred for Monday's Southwell success. However, preference is for DOMBEY. Roger Charlton's runner, a creditable fourth of a big field behind Astor Place on his debut at Newchannel's furner; a declarative burnt of a log fleet better to consider the second at reamander in September but a disappointing fourth of sk, to Circled at Haydock the following month, was having his first race since when scoring by 10 lengths in an auction maiden race at Wolverhampton last month. There should be better to come from this Dominion colt. Havel Hunther, another Southwell societ last month, and Goodwood Rockert, favourite when a three-length second to Queen's insignia in a Goodwood nursery at the end of September but without a race since, appeal most of the others.

Selection: DOMBEY

CHIEF'S SONG finished only 10th of 20 to Always Aloof in the corresponding race 12 months ago but races off a 15th lower mark this time. With the strong lightweight Jimmy Quinn booked and in a visor for the first time, Simon Dow's sty-year-did has every chance. He was pulled up in the early stages of the County Hundle last time but won the highly competitive William Hill Handcap Hundle at Sandown in December, having reviewably beaten 8-11 chance by Putty Road three lengths at Cheltenham, while he ran third behind Amanico and Silver Groom in the Imperial Cup. Chief's Song is 17to better in with Laliandi, who finished fifth in the year ago and has a 9b acheratege with Upper Mount Clair, who was last. My selection was giving Staffled 22b, when they finished ninth and 10th of 17 to Smugging at Sandown almost a year ago and they meet at levels today. And he is 17to better in with Laindi who was third). Upper Mount Clair, favounte at Doncaster (2m 2f) two weeks ago for the race he won last season, flinished fourth to Shadirwan, beaten more than 13 lengths, with Sea Freedom firm a first-hard fourth to Shadirwan, beaten more than 13 lengths, with Sea Freedom firm a first-hard vocabled up four wins in 1995, will have come on as a result of the Town Moor run and may prove the pich of the quentet this time. The Shadirwan yard of Reg Akehurst is represented by Proton, who won the Moet & Chandon Silver Magnum at Epsiom (1m4h) last August but was unplaced in both subsequent starts, could pose a threat if he least out the longer journey. River Mesea, who comes here fighting fit from a Wolverhampton all-weather win last morth, and Seasonal Spleudour, who has been hurding may do best of the others depite their hefty weights.

The 2,000 Guineas cutsider ELSHABIBA has writtered well and can start his second season on the high note. John Dunlop's Dayur cost suffered sore shins when a 4-5 chance and heaten three-quarters of a length by Tamhid on his introduction at Ascot in July. He was not seen again until October and, despite the absence, landed the race at Newmaniet confined to two and three-year-olds that John Dunlop specialises in - running on strongly to beat Laafee by a length. This longer trip will suit. Line Diancer went in first time out last term and ran well on his three other outings, winding up with a second to Glory Of Dancer in a Group One race at San Stro - Danlesston sooth of nine. Even so, Wood Minglic may be the biggest threat. David Loder's runner got off the mark on the sand at Southwell at odds of leating Henry The Fafta (3b worse off) two and a half lengths. Believe bile mastered Builtinch a neck at York last October and is 41b better in their when he beat the same had nearly two lengths into thed at Newmaniet on his final appearance. Regiment halfs from last year's

_T Quion 10 _M HRS 13Pat Eddery 7 Dame O'Neil (5) 11 6 Hind 15 402005- URGENIT SWRFT (173) (L Pust) A Jamis 7 10 .

CARLISLE

2.05 Gale Ahead 2.35 Toshiba Talk 3.05 Fiveleigh Builds 3.35 Wills Telmar 4.05 Bitacrack 4.35 Bhavnagar 5.05 Royal Expression

GOING: Hurdle course - Firm (Good to Firm in places); (Tasse course - Good to Firm (Firm in places).

Eight-hand, undulating course, Run-in of 250lyds. Recognize is on the southern outskirts of town on Durdar road, our miles were of junction 42 of MG. Bus service from Carlisia railway station which is two miles away. ADMISSION: Chib 512 (OAPs & under-21s 59); Tattersalls \$6 (OAPs & under-21s 53). CAR PARE: On rails \$5; (including occupants); remainder free.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DESTANCE EUNNERS: Pacific War (5,05) & Explore Mon dial (1.05) sent 1.25 raties from T Dyer's investowage stable in Tayside.

2.05 BORDER GARDEN CENTRE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3m - 6 declared -

BETEME: 6-4 Sejo Airend, 5-2 Lie Detector, 7-2 White Disc

- 1				- LINEOPALI
- 1	·		B.B.C. RADIO CUMBRIA NOVICI (CLASS E) (DIV I) £2,500 add	- HORDE
]	119	2E i	B.D.L. RODIO CONT. CO EM add	ed 2m 11
- 1	115		(CLASS E) (DIV I) 122,500 Gas	
			The second secon	18 JN F057
	1	QP21-P2	SPEAKER'S HOUSE (177) (O) Mass L Russel 7 1	P Carbett
.	2	062022	SPENCER'S HOUSE (177) (I) Mass 1 mass 1 COLORGIL AMBITION (17) A Scribert 6 11 2 DAYTHE DAWN (31) D Mofat 5 11 2	n i Malia
- {	3	EO.CO	DEVTRUE PARK (31) D MOTAT 5 11 2	
-		1030	DON'THEL TOM (21) I Wate 6 11 2	
. !		950045	DON'T TELL TOOL 1227 7 TOOL 5 11 2	_D Padoof (4
1	[5	(8) 4 (1)	REMIT CEMENT (and a . m.m.	كالتا المدارية
1	ĨΕ	75.7X	MERAN (USA) (38) J DOCCS 10 11 2	s Mekasa [
	日内心で	NEDTE	JUBRAN (USA) (38) J DOCCS 10 11 2 TREBOGLIM (USA) (42) R ARAN 7 11 2	D Chart
		USFZSF .	CAPIC CHARM (1,459) Charlon 8 10 11	
	9.	- 5	GORDE CHARGE (TAGE) 100 TO	P ####
٠ [8		ZHIELD KIME IN DATE AT TO THE	R Harding (
i	22:	35745	TORSHING TALK (19) 8 ESST - 10 10	C Descript C
	72 53	~~~	TOSHER TALK (19) 8 F850 - 10 10	A Director La
	٦-	U	11 deciared	

- 11 declared
EET FRSC: 3-1 Jebrum, 4-1 Colortal Ambrition, Tostalia Talk, 8-1 Journty Gen 44 Speciar's House, 18-1 Tricestom, Tryph, 12-1 others

3.05 OUBTER GOODISON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3m 231 - Mac Run (22) (CD) D Ec.) 11 10 11 _____ Catagon # declared - # declared - # fine | 5-2 irish Stamp.

4.05 (CLASS F) £3,800 added 2m 4f 110yds
4 410112. ROYAL VACATION (513) (C) G M Moore 7 12 0
2 (3333P MBIS MII (90) (5) (6) T Carbort 11 12 0 P News 3 P-353(5 WAIT YOU THERE (67) (0) H Absorder 11 11 7 M Dayer
4 593(13- UNIOR (FR) (325) (D) P Montent 10 11 4
5 365043 PRECIPICE RUN (26) (CD) 6 Richards 11.11 4 8 Haming (3) 6 45±123 ANOTHER VENTURE (17) F Murphy 6 11 2
- INCOM ARSAU OR CON AN Mar. S Porthymp 12 10 19 A Watt (7)
8 1A21F5 BITACRACK (8) (CD) J Balance 9 10 7
9 OOLOGP DONOVANS RELET (TAS) MIS LARGESTED IN IN 5 D. HARMANY
10 F33315 TUDOR HELLIN (12) J WARE (10 U
11 0-403PP SUPPOSIN (A2) (D) MES SINGS 10 0
- 12 decisted -
Manimum: 10st. True h'cop veignes Supposin Ser 10th, Explore Mondai Ser 10th.
BETTHIC: 7-2 Another Venture, 9-2 Bitacrack, Mils MJ, 6-1 Royal Veca-
tion, 7-1 Precipies Rus, 8-1 Walt You There, liner, 12-1 others
CARLISLE CLUB NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE
4.35 CARLISLE CLUB NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m 4f 110yds

2 0-0551 TURKISH TOWER (15) R Name 5 11 4
3 P544-16 JUMSO STAR (168) (C) J Data 6 11 1 F Penatt
4 GR54P MESTER CASUAL (30) W Reed 7 11 0T Reed
5 280442 NAMAY (8) M Barnes 6 10 11 P Wagnet
6 250002 JOHNEN (8) Mrs E Stack 5 10 10 Deviction (7)
7 00021. BARRON FIERRIES (30) Mrs M Reeley 4 10 8
9 31243P RACHAEL'S DAWN (42) JL 6; e 6 10 4 0 Pears
9 31243P RACHAELS DAWN (42) JL 5re 8 10 4 D Peas 10 036630 MISS LAMPLICHT (19) F Hartagh 6 10 3 P Carbony
11 353465 BLOOMING SPRING (18) Mrs D Thomas 7 10 0:1 07 Haza
12 OO-FFF HARRY'S SPECIAL (SIG) IN Haramond 6 10 0 Mar C Bogmer (S)
13 SPF4F BARRISTORMER (7) E Short 10 10 0 Kilones
- 23 declared -
Markoum weight 10st. Harry's Special 9st 8th, Barnstonner 9st 2th. BETTING: 9-4 Barton Heights, 3-1 Bhannaghs, 5-1 Turidsh Tower, 10-1
Rachael's Dawn, Jossen, 12-1 Street Bongit, 14-1 others
5.05 B.B.C. RADIO CUMBRIA NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV II) £2,500 added 2m 1f
CLASSE (DIV II) £2 500 added 2m 1f
1 03006 DARK BURY (29) B Martagaet 7 11 2 B Stormy
3 IN (ISON (III) Mis E Stack 8 11.2 FPerrett
4 OPP-P MERCHANISCIZAT Confident 7 11 2 Carol Cutthent
5 000 MELEC 20 Date 5112 DINOTE
2 (653-00 PROPERTY DRIVER OF \$11.2 M Device 2 (653-00 PROPERTY DRIVER OF \$12.2 Februari 2 (799-P MERCHARDE (22) *Corbert ? 11.2 Card Carbert 5 (799-P MERCHARDE (22) *Corbert ? 11.2 Card Carbert 6 (799-P MERCHARDE) DRIVER 5 11.2 D J Mortest 7 (790-P PROPERTY SEPTEMBER (22) J Schem 8 11.2 Flash (3) 8 (790-P MERCHARDE (22) J Schem 8 11.2 Flash (3) 9 12242 ROMANDE (22) J Schem 8 11.2 PROPERTY SEPTEMBER (22) J Schem 8 11.2 PROPERTY SEPTEMBER (23) J Schem 6 (3) 11.2 D Partier (3) 11.2 D Partier (3)
7 -06-0P PHCPC*********************************
8 00000 PRS-HBR (22) See 1811 2 Critica
9 12242 ROMANDERSSION (28) Mrs 14 Render - 112P Place
10 00 ROSE TRANSPORTER (77) F Nature 5 11 2
TI ON CONTRACTOR AND PROPERTY (S)

3.35 CUMMERSDALE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m 4f 110yds

11151P MASSLAD (24) J J O'Nell 6 11 10 A Ri 022460 MODFORM WONDER (B) (D) D Eddy 9 11 8 L UF0652 WILLS TELMAR (28) M Tochunter 8 11 7 L 06100 VAL DE RAMA (18) Denys Smith 7 10 10 B Han 014P-40 TOPPORMER (42) (D) F Wassin 9 10 0 D

4.05 BRACKENRIDGE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,800 added 2m 4f 110yds

GOING: Good to Firm (Firm in places).
Left-hand, undulating course with sharp bends. Tricky downhill
fence in back straight. Uphill run-in of 200rds.
Course is off A275 south of Haywards Heath. Plumpton railway
station adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 212; Tattersalls 58;
Course \$4. CAR PARE: \$4 (centre of course) & \$1.
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Reefa's MIII (3.55) has been sent
162 miles by J Neville from Newport, Gwent; K C's Dancer (2.25)
sent 135 miles by R Dickin from Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire;
Toddling Inn (2.25), Take A Piver (2.55) & Smiling Chief (3.25) sent 135 miles by R Hodges from Charlton Adam, Somerset; Child-
bary Chocolate sent 139 miles by P Nicholls from Ditchest, Somer-
sei; Knocksverry (3.25) sent 117 miles by M Wilkinson from
Edgrate, Northamptonshire; Aprilson (3,55) sent 113 miles by G Brav-
ery from Newsparies, Suffolic Fifth Funitier (3.25) sent 113 miles
by Mess A Embirieos from Newmarket, Suffolk: Star Anise (3.55)
sent 113 miles by Mrs D Hame from Newmarket, Smilott.
2.25 EUROP ASSISTANCE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,600 added 3m 1f 110yds
1 1153-25 WINDOW LONDAINE (184) (D) R Alner 11 12 0 6 Tormey (3)
2 4511P-1 MONESANDER (232) (CD) P Rechard 10 11 9 Tory
3 O1 CHELDHAY CHOCOLICTE (18) P Nicholis 8 11 5 A P McCoy
4 2140P6 K C'S DANCER (12) (II) R Dickin 11 11 0 M A Fitzgerald
5 523(3) OH SO HANDY (8) (C) R Curts 8 10 12
6 FOGPU TODDURBE INN (11) R Hodges 9 10 0 T Descourbe (3)
– 6 declared –
Manman weight 10st. True handicap weight: Toddling inn 9st 5th.
BETTING: 7-4 Childrey Chocolete, 9-4 Monksender, 7-2 Winnie Lorreise,
5-1 Oh So Handy, 12-1 Todding Inn, 16-1 K C's Dancer
2.55 AMERICAN EXPRESS FOREIGN EX- CHANGE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELL-
2.55 CHANGE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELL-
ING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G)
HIS ENTERIORS HORDER (CEASS O)
£2,450 added 2m 1f
1 4/R0606 NATIVE CHEFTAN (33) S Dow 7 12 0
2 6010PP DISTRAIT HOME (40) A Jones 8 10 13

PLUMPTON

Do 4.55 Gerry's Pride

2.25 Childhay Chocolate 2.55 Mister Blake

3.25 Smiling Chief 3.55 Matamoros 4.25 Dear

	5-	1 Ob So As	Childhay Chocolete, 9-4 Monksander, 7-2 Whinle Lorraine, andy, 12-1 Todding Inn, 16-1 K C's Dancer
	[2.55	AMERICAN EXPRESS FOREIGN EX- CHANGE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELL- ING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,450 added 2m 1f
	1	4/RD606	NATIVE CHEFTAN (33) S Dow 7 12 0
٠	2 3 :	6010PP	DISTRACT HOME (40) A Jones 8 10 13
	3	343-353	JOKER JACK (232) R Dean 11 10 9 A Procter
1	4		MDOM: (40) G Emgz 9 10 9
	5	60523F	MESTER BLAKE (33) Mrs A Hamaton-Festey 6 10 8
1	ı		
1	£	600 110	BRYLORD PRINCE (9) (CD) Lies J Ever 8 10 7
1			Sophie Aftichel
-	7	=0.eem	TAKE A REVER (23) R HW: 26 G 10 G

- 12 deciared

Abrimum weight: 10st. The handcap weight Remarks Way 9st 9lb, Missar St. Ch. BELTING: 1.1-4 Native Chiefter, 4-1 Roger's Pal, 7-1 Do Be Ware, Misser Blake, 8-1 Take A Flyer, 10-1 Joker Jack, 12-1 others 5-1 Černy's Prid

OPG 18450N (84) S Melor - 100.

[3.25	GEORGINA NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 5f
1		SMELING CHIEF (4) R Hodges 8 11 8 T Descorabe (3)
2	2-0031F	KNOCKAVERSY (15) (8F) M Wilderson 8 11.3 _P Crowley (7)
3	3-49955	FIFTH FUSILIER (26) Was A Embricos 9 11 2 Ryan
4	321375	LUCKY DOLLAR (3) K Balley 8 11 2A P McCop
5		TELLAPORRY (16) Mess K George 7 11 2
6	2-P5064	NRKAROO (11) J King 10 10 11

RETIFIC: 7-4 Knocksverry, 11-4 Smiling Chief, 7-2 Lucky Dollar, 6-1 Nice roo, 12-1 Fifth Fusilier, Tellapodoy

3.55	WOODGATE FARMS DAIRY CREAM OF SUSSEX JUVENILE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3.000 added 470 2m 1f
m	(VDISUN (25) 6 Brasey 10 12T Kent
~~~	BON VOYAGE (22) D Greek 10 12 J R Kawanagh
	CULTURAL ICON (B3) P Michel 10 12
6P6	MATAMOROS (12) G Hawood 10 12M A Filogerald
900	MCRUMENT (73) J King 10 12T Descombs (3)
000	MORE BULS (31) A Moore 10 12M Batcholor (7)
00	RESERVS MILL (17) J Newto 10 12
04	WATER HAZARD (130) S Dow 10 12
	ZUND FLYER A Moore 10 12L Aspell [5]
024	FARMER'S TERN (12) P Butler 10 7G Tormey (3)
0	OUR LITTLE LADY (147) / Pouton 10 7
	ROOKERY GERL Mrs E Heath 1.0 7
P	STAR ANSSE (49) Mrs D Harry 10 7
	- 13 declared -
1784D- 3.1	Ron Vincete 4-1 Former's Term, 7-1 Materianous, 8-1 Col-

Bon Voyage, 4-1 Farmer s ross, onument, Zuno Plyer, 14-1 others

4	.25	SINGER & FRIEDLANDER HANDIC CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m	7
1	211424	DEAR DO (11) (D) (BF) N Henderson 9 12 0 M A Fitzg	м
2	LOOPIF	WARPPERS DELIGHT (19) (C) G Charles-Jones 8 11.9	
_	•	D Web	à
3	03,5061	BELAFONTE (17) Mass K George 9 11 5 R Keen	
_		IN THE ZONE (19) Was I Richards 11 10 13	
4			
5	/P/PP/IP	VODKA FEZZ (35) (D) R Rowe 11 10 7	ь
6	D6443P	UPWARD SURGE (4) R LEGGER 6 10 0Mrs N Le	d
•		- 6 declared -	•

Minimum weight 10st. True handloap weight Upward Surge 9st 10lb. BETTEKS: 7-4 Dear Do, 9-4 Whippers Delight, 4-1 Belafonte, 5-1 Upwar Source, 10-1 Vociliza Fizz, 16-1 in The Zone

4	.55	NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,00 added 2m 4f
1	592	CHREFTAIN'S CROWN (16) Mass K George 5 11 2
2	003	GERRY'S PRIDE (18) G Balang 5 11 2A P MicC
3	200	10RD ROOBLE (28) / Giford 5 11 2 P 76
4	0	RAVUS (159) K \freeti 6 11 2 A Dick
5	02005	WHISTLING BUCK (26) R Rove 8 11 2
6	35224	PEDALTOTHEMETAL (15) P Machel 4 10 4

tal, 11-4 Lord Rooble, 7-2 Chieftzin's Cro

# HAYDOCK

HYPERION 1.30 Double Edipse 3.00 Hammerstein 2.00 Penny A Day (nb) 3.30 Roman Gold 4.00 Spondulicks 2.30 Kumucu

GOING: Good

STALLS: 71 & 2m inside: rest - outside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 5f to 6f; Low from 7f80yd to 1m40yd. Almost flat, oval course; straight 6f course.

Rececourse is near junction of A580 and M6. Newton railway station is two miles away. ADMISSION: County Stand \$15; Tettersalls £9; Newton Stand \$4 (OAPa half-price in Tattersalls and Newton Stand). CAR PARK: Free.

■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS. J Dunlop – 23 winners from 94 runn st a ratio of 24.5% giving a return to a 51 level stake of +518.77; J Gooden – 21 winner as a rano of 24.2% group a resum to 2.5 keVej stage of +516.7; 3 counces -21 winders, 86 runners, 24.4%, +54.67; H Coeff - 19 winners, 53 runners, 35.8%, +515.41; B Hills - 14 winners, 64 runners, 21.9%, -50.44; J Berry - 14 winners, 163 runners, 23.9%, -586.92; M Stoute - 13 winners, 61 runners, 21.3%, -517.74; R Hollinghead - 13 winners, 146 runners, 8.93%, -540.90.

ners, 140 runners, 3.50%, -240.90.

LEADING JOCKETS: W Ryan – 30 winners, 137 rides, 21.9 +532.13; J Carroll – 18 wunners, 169 rides, 11.2%, -5.4.61; Pat Eddery – 17 winners, 56 rides, 30.4%, +511.80; K Darley – 17 winners, 130 rides, 13.1%, -51.02; M Hills – 16 winners, 76 rides, 21.1%, +512.23; M Roberts – 16 winners, 70 rides, 21.4%, +57.21. BLINKERED FOR THE FIRST TIME: Askik (3.00).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Kristal's Paradise (1.30), Taipan (2.00) & Samhu (3.30) sen 238 miles from J Dunlop's Arundel, West Sussex, stable.

1.30 BNFL INSIDE STORIES STAKES (CLASS B) BBC1: 

FORM GUIDE

Double Trigger won the Sagaro at Sandown first time up last season and his brother DOUBLE ECLIPSE faces an easier test for his first start as a four-year-old. He could not be
builted with his runs against the older stayers last season and should gallop these mats
into submission under Franke Detron. Twice beaten a neck, by Stehfo in the Queen's
Vase and by stablemate Double Trigger in the Goodwood Cup, he gained a deserved
in the Lonsdale at York before fathering against Further Fight in Newmarket's Jockey Club
Cup. Old Rouwel was an uniucky loser against Further Fight in Newmarket's Jockey Club
Cup. Old Rouwel was an uniucky loser against Further Fight in this race last year when
denied a clear run a furlong out. Twice behind Double Eclipse on their two encounters,
Old Rouwel has a chance on the altered weights, but Double Eclipse with have improved
from three to four, Kristat's Paradise is interesting in this class. She finished last season with a run in a Group 3 in Italy. A progressive handcapper, she standed her winning
run on this clouse in July with an easy win from Executive Design. And the colt (Daraydan) who beat her at Newmarket in October put up a good effort against Juyush at Doncaster's opening fixture.

200 BNFL MEDLOCK LINKS HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,650 added 1m 4f £5,167	BBCT				
1 16054-3 PENNY A DAY (14) (CD) (I Good) Mrs M Reveley 6 10 0	K Declay 5				
2 D1/0430- TAIPAN (299) (Lord SupplyIng) J Dunlop 4 9 9	L Deltori 6				
3 411006- LONEARDIC (USA) (193) (CD) (Burusprint) Mrs J Caci 5 9 9	T Ives 7				
4 022103- OUT ON A PROMISE (170) (Paul Green) N Walter 4 9 4					
5 114123- THALMANN (225) (D) (W Clifford) D Williams 4 9 4	"D Griffats (5) 1				
6 42503-0 VAUGRENER (16) (D) (Non Tweeten) R Hannon 4 8 11	R Hughes 3				
7 111540- TESSAUDE (168) (D) (Rijey Partnership) M Carractio 4 8 4					
-7 declared -					
RETTRNO: 2-1 Penny A Day, 4-1 Taipan, 5-1 Locabardic, 6-1 Vaugrenier, 7-1 Tesasjoe, 8-1 Out On					

FORM GUIDE

Vangrenier and Lombardic have both displayed front-running factios, so the race will be set up for TESSAIDE with his low weight. At his best on fast ground and with four whis his harme last season. Tessajoe is fanced to swoop for enother success. Unludy when fifth (beaten only a length) to Thatjaniah at Rapon last May, Tessajoe went on to reverse the form with Top Lady (second) on 9th worse learns on the same course in July. Thei-janah has his first run since being gelded and being bought out of Alec Stewart's stable for 25,000grs. He could be best watched today and is poorly handicapped with Vaugrefor 25,000ghs. He could be best watched today and is poorly handicapped with Vaugerner on Epsom numming in July. Vaugernier is smillar to stablemate and Lincoln winner Stone Ridge in that he won his maiden at Brighton. That Epsom second to High Flying Adored he is now 4lib better with Thaljamah (last of four) — was a good effort and a warm-up outing at Doncaster will have put an edge on hen. Talpain is the type to win races this term after missing out last season when lightly raced. The closest he came was on the good ground on this course when a betting second to Romios and that winner fireshed his campaign with a fire second to Quandary in a hot handicap at Ascot. Peretty A Day would not want the ground to get any faster. An unleastern hundler and third to Julyach at Doncaster, he put up a cracking effort to win last year's Zetland Gold Cup at Redcar without a previous run. On unsurably fest ground in handicaps afterwards, Perny A Day is back racing off his Redcar mark, but the 10st is still offputting. Lombardic will like the testish conditions and returns to the scene of his all-the-vay win from Dagnief in the Old ish conditions and returns to the scene of his all-the-say win from Dagmert in the Old vion Cup. He beat Glide Path in a little race at York eftencards and remains well hand respect. Like Thalianah, Out On A Processe has cranged stables, being sold out of a off Wragg's stable for 46,000grs to jon Da. Williams.

Selection: TESSAIGE

2.30	BNFL FELD MARSHAL STAKES (CLASS A) BBC1 (Listed) £18,000 added 3YO 5f £12,137			
	2- WESTCOURT MAGIC (182) (D) (K Proceson M N Enstato) 9 1 1 Dettor 5			
2 00220	5- EASTERN PROPHETS (182) (D) (Herer Recing Cain I) T J Navighton 8 11 Paul Eddery 3			
3 2212	P. MRUSIC GOLD (155) (D) (N S Yong) W O'Gorman 8 11			
4 10220	)- PRINCE ASUA (177) (D) (Mrs R ) Deneki M Johnson 8 11 Compil 1			
5 22	I. REPERTORY (320 (D) (Chrs Scott) M Crannon 8 11			
E 44142	- KURNICU (182) (D) (P D Saxti) T Barror, 8 6			
- 6 declared -				
RETTRIC: 5-2 Kimmon, 3-1 Westcourt Maric, 4-1 Reportury, 5-1 Maric Gold, 6-1 Prince Acids.				

1995; Mind Games 3 9 4 J Campit evens & Berry 5 ran

FORM GUIDE

Mick Easterby has been in fine form over the last couple of monitis and Stolen kiss won a competitive handicap at Newcastle 11 days ago on her first start of the season. The stable's WESTCOURT MAGIC is favoured in this tight affair, the son of Emerati having his first start since being gelded, such a progressive juvenile – his winning run stanted in a select – he finished up finding the ground too soft when beatern by Muhby in the Comwalls at Ascot, but still finished wheat of Kunucu and Eastern Prophets. That was the third time he had beaten Eastern Prophets, the first time coming in a Beverley nursery that time he had beaten Eastern Prophets, the first time coming in a Beverley nursery when he was getting 24th. Kurucu did not give her true nurving at Ascor (hampered at the start) and is best judged on her previous length-second to Westcourt Magic in the Harry Rosebery at Ayr. Now meeting Westcourt Magic on 7to better terms, Kurucu must have every chance – and her stable has been howing first-time-up winners recently. Repertory is another to have been geded. He has always been well regarded, but suffered muscle problems after crusing home from Autobabble at Salisbury in May, it would come as no surprise to see him burn up the ground from his draw next to the stands' side rail. Muscle Gold wibbled on the fast glound when touched off by Polly Golghtly in a Doncaster nursery at the backend. Bill O'Gorman rates him highly and the colt was unlictly at Ling-field prior to the York win. Prilose Aalia found his ideal opening at Epoint Isst Jure and a sharp five will probably always surt him best.

3.00 BNFL CRIME CONQUEST MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3YO 7f 30yds £3,648 ARREGORNE HARRES IS G Astron: A Balley 9 0

ALPINE HODEAWAY (176) IN/s Mary Dresin! B Hambury 9 0

ARCH ENGAY (P D Saill M Channon 9 0 OD ALPINE RIDEAMAY (175) (R.S. Mary Bresint B Hambury 9 D
ARCH EMBAY (P D Scale) M Chemon 9 D
OD ASSEM (194) (Ray Badey) L Berratt 9 D
OD BACKWOODS (1955) (P R Karl W Besbourne 9 D
CRABBETS PRIDE (Turis Hear Rang Cabl A Soley 9 D
HAMBETSTEIN (196) (Shekin Mohzammed) M Strute 9 D
HAMBETSTEIN (196) (Shekin Mohzammed) M Strute 9 D
HAMBOMAN (1958) (170) (Hesmons Stuff ) L Goode 9 D
HAMBOMAN (1958) (170) (Hesmons Stuff ) L Goode 9 D
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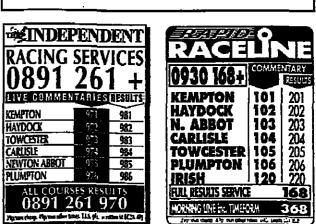
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	عا ا	3.30	(CLASS C) £7,650 added 3YO 1m 2f 120yds	3
	1	5204-	WARRENG REEF (238) (P.J. Sheehan) M Channon 9 79	R Hagher
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ı	3	124-210	QUALITY (16) (0) (N S York) W O'Gorman 9 4	Brance O'Gornage
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# Sellars steps out of the shadows

Glenn Moore meets the Bolton midfield man relishing a return to the limelight

his is the man who left Blackburn just as the dream was beginning; this is the man who joined Leeds just as they embarked on the worst title defence in 30 years; this is the man who left Newcastle when they were top of the League to join Bolton, who were bottom.

Bolton took one point from the next 18. It could be said that, when it comes to his moves off the pitch, timing is not one of Scott Sellars' strong points. Sellars admi ars admits he may have

made bad decisions in his career, and, after that start at Bolton, wondered if his December transfer was another one. Now, however, as Wanderers attempt to continue their remarkable escape bid at Everton today, he is gladhe moved. Not even Nevcastle's stunning match at Antield, which was the talk of training at Bolton on Thursday, could change his mind.

'Í didn't think 'I could be playing in that' because I wouldn't have been," he admitted in the restaurant at Burnden Park, "People say to me 'what did you leave Newcastle for?" but they don't realise I wasn't playing for the first team - that's why I left."

In doing so Sellars was go-ing against the trend. With the increase in squads and wages at the big clubs there are plenty of experienced players in the stiffs. Until recently Liverpool had the most notable collection with Paul Stewart, Nigel Clough, Mark Walters and Jan Molby on the books but off the team sheet.

The problem at certain clubs is that the wages are so big no one can match them." Sellars said. "It is very difficult for players to take a £3,000-a-week drop. At Liverpool I would think the wages are exceptional.

For me, I want to play. I was in the reserves at Newcastle and it was driving me crazy. We played at Gateshead on Monday nights. It's an athletics stadium so there was no atmosphere. I was playing with Philippe Albert. Paul Kitson, Marc Hottiger and Pavel Smicek and we all had the same problem. We couldn't get our heads round

"It was all right if we hadn't had a game for two or three weeks, I would be ready to play, but when it was week in, week out it was so hard to get vourself going. I wasn't en-



Scott Sellars: 'I think the lads thought that if you went out and played you would win but it is more difficult than that'

joying it. You get kids of 17, 18, wanting to kick you. They're try-ing to prove a point, make their mark in their career and you can accept that, but they're getting on your nerves, you're getting kicked all over the place. The standard is never the same as the first team. I came in for a couple of first-team games and it took me until halftime to adjust to the pace. I felt exhausted.

"I had already been out with injury for a year. I'd sat there for all the games, wishing the lads all the best, and it looked like I was set for another year of that. With respect to myself, I wasn't likely to get into the

team ahead of David Ginola. "It was hardest on Saturdays, when the manager named the team and you were 15th or 16th man. I found that really difficult. You've trained all week. you're fully fit and you're raring to go. Kevin Keegan never names the team until quarter think the lads thought if you to two so you're all on tenter- went out and played you would hooks. Then he does - and win but it's more difficult than

you're not involved. I'm not a young man any more [he is 30] and it got too difficult. When Bolton came in. Kevin left the decision to me.

"After the first few weeks I did wonder what I had done. I had come from a club where you went out expecting to win to a club where you were hoping to win. My confidence suffered. There is nothing worse than getting beat every week, however well or badly you play and confidence is everything

As last week's fightback against Manchester City showed. Bolton now have that elusive quality, with four wins in seven matches. The turning point, perversely, was the 6-0 home defeat to Manchester United. "We hit rock bottom then. It was a realisation of what vou need to be a good team the work-rate and the organisation as well as the ability. I that in the Premier League. We had a chat where a few home truths were said and the result was a change in formation. We put one striker up and gave Sasa Curcic a free role. It has really beloed us. It has made us a lot more solid at the back."

'After the first few weeks I did wonder what I had done. My confidence suffered'

When Sellars first arrived, Bolton had two managers, Roy McFarland and Colin Todd. "I found it a funny situation. You never really knew who was manager. In football you always know where the authority lies and it was difficult with two of freedom. Training was just took off." Yet, no sooner football."

that." There was no such doubt at Newcastle, or Blackburn or Leeds, each of whom had distinctive managers. In his second spell at Leeds an excess of mid-fielders led to Howard Wilkinson selling him - he admits he found Wilkinson "hard to get to know" - but there is nothing but admiration for Kenny Dalglish and Keegan.
"Kevin is the best ranger

I have played under for manmanagement and getting the most out of his players. He really made you feel like you were a good player. Kenny was deeper tactically, more likely to change things for different matches. Kevin put the onus on couldn't believe it. the players. He bought good players with good football brains and let them get on with it. We never practised any set-pieces. He just said: 'You are good players, go out and do it'. But he would see things at halftime. It was really enjoyable, he to go up. Then Jack Walker be-

US.

people. I think everyone found brilliant. I got more out of that had they landed in the Premier Division than Sellars went back than playing for the reserves. "Kenny is great with players. People have this perception of

him as dour but with the players he is totally different, always having a laugh. I always felt he was taking the pressure off the players. He knows his football too. When he came the impact was incredible. We had heard rumours but we thought: 'Oh yes, he's packed it in at Liverpool and he's going to come to Blackburn with crowds of 10.000. Then he walked into the changing-room with Ray Harford the Saturday morning of the Plymouth game and the lads were gobsmacked. We

"He gave everyone a lift. The fans always had this belief that the club didn't want to go up, that they were happy being fifth or sixth in the First Division. Kenny's arrival gave everyone belief that the club did want lot came the main man and the club to Leeds, where he had started as an apprentice, and who were then the champions. "Looking back, leaving

Photograph: Simon Wilkinson

Blackburn was a bad idea. I didn't think it through enough. I went because I was disappointed at the way I was being treated by Blackburn over a new contract. They were only offering two years, I wanted longer. With hindsight I can understand their view - I had never played in the top division.

"I could see Blackburn going places but Leeds had just won the championship, they were in the European Cup, they had been my first club and I wanted to prove they were wrong to sell me when I was young. It looked good. But I cannot look back with too much disappointment - they transferred me to Newcastle, where I probably had the most enjoyable time of my career. That was a great place to play

#### Charlton nerves exploited by Luton

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TREVOR HAYLETT

Charlton Athletic

As the manager of Charlton, Lennie Lawrence had waited a long time to return to The Valley and when he finally made it, now in charge of Luton, it was every bit as good as he hoped it would be. At least it was for 70 minutes before his former club contrived a fortuitous equaliser yesterday.

The Charlton supporters. warm in their appreciation, still remember him with affection though they will be cursing Lawrence if Luton are found to have been the stumbling block on which their attempt to annexe one of the two automatic promotion places came to grief.

Indeed, Charlton were lucky

to prise a single point from a nerve-ridden, untidy affair, a harshly awarded penalty giving Bradley Allen the chance to score his first goal at The Valley following his £400,000 move from Queen's Park Rangers. After the defeat by Leicester the wasting of another home opportunity promises to be costly.

Luton needed to win just as badly with the games remaining for them to embellish Lawrence's reputation as the master escapologist diminishing. For an hour their football contained an element of composure that Chariton sorely lacked.

The visitors took the lead on 23 minutes with a goal engineered by the player whose departure from Charlton last week provided the means to fund Allen's arrival. Having initially lost the ball, Kim Grant was then gifted possession again by Jamie Stuart and immediately saw the possibilities with Tony Thorpe striding away in

Thorpe was allowed a clear run but his shot, hit firmly across Andy Petterson, appeared to be travelling fractionally wide when Richard Rufus, in a despairing attempt to rescue the situation turned the ball over the line.

With Lee Bowyer searching for form and Ian Feuer a commanding presence, Charlton, in front of a sell-out 14,000-plus crowd, their biggest in the wondering where they could make inroads, even accounting

for Allen's superior touches. After Grant had lashed a promising opening wide they at last began to make progress and on the hour. John Robinson found room for a left-wing cross which struck Steve Davies on the arm. The penalty clearly distracted the Luton defender who was nearly punished a second time when he put Bowyer through for an instinctive finish

that Feuer did well to keep out. Late on, Luton were rescued by a post after Paul Linger's shot had fizzed through. That would have put Charlton in better heart for their next two games, against Sunderland and Derby, but the play-offs look the limit of their ambitions.

We started very brightly, but didn't get the early goal we nceded to settle us down," Alan Curbishley, the Charlton manager, said.

"The whole place is getting too anxious - the players and the crowd. With such a young side, perhaps we're running before we can walk as a football

Charlton Athletic (4-4-2); Petterson; Brown, Rufus, C Whyte, Stuarr (Linger, 51); Robson, Bower (D Whyte, 75), Jones, Robinson; Allen, Leaburn, Substitute not used: Balmer. Luton Youn (4-4-2): Feuer, Alexander, Davis, Patterson, Thomas; Thompe (Toman-son, 81), Waddock, Harvey (Johnson, 75), Genchev; Grant (Dakes, 77), Willianson.

# Celtic seek inspiration against old rivals

For any team in Scotland to win winners at Hampden tomorrow a trophy these days, the accepted wisdom is that they must first beat Rangers. That is the task awaiting Celtic as they prepare for their tennents scor-tish Cup semi-final against their repare for their Tennents Scotgreatest rivals tomorrow.

Celtic approach the game as the holders of the famous trophy, but in the knowledge that they have failed to record a win over Rangers in five games so far this season. The two have been neck and neck in one of the most exciting championship races for many years and, while many see this as the final before the final. Aberdeen and Hearts have enough confidence in their

will have to work hard to become the eventual cup holders.

The Old Firm game domi-nates the weekend, with Celtic facing the prospect of finishing empty-handed in a year when they have turned the clock back to produce performances reminiscent of their glory days in the 1960s. Last Monday, they demolished Aberdeen 5-0, a result which sent shock waves through the Scottish football scene and, while the circumstances of the season demand that Celtic must now hope the Dons can do them a favour by taking league points from Rangers, as preparation

The greatest confidence boost any team can get is to beat a quality side like Aberdeen by five goals and to play as well as we did," he said. "There has been little to choose between ourselves and Rangers this season and, while we will do our utmost in the game, we might also need a bit of luck. We are well aware that this is Celtic Football Club and our supporters turn up to be entertained - and also to see us win."

Burns will again look to the resurgent midfield play of Peter Grant, who has emerged from for a tense semi-final the match the dark shadows of Celtic's bar-their line-up and, with a five-

Tommy Burns, the Celtic man- David McKinney on the weekend's

Scottish Cup semi-final action the best football of his career. So much so, Burns has indicated, that Grant would be his choice as Player of the Year.

Nevertheless, the key to victory for Celtic will be in creating chances, something they have failed to do in several of their games against Rangers this season. Rangers will await a fitness test on Richard Gough, their captain, before deciding Rangers know they would take some to apparently inferior touching distance of silverware a giant step towards the league and Cup double with a victory. The league title would be the

most important prize for both sides," Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, said, "but at the same time both will obviously want to win this one. We won't worry about Celtic's win over Aberdeen because we will concentrate on our own game and on causing them problems."

If Celtic supporters recognise the necessity of beating Rangers to lift a trophy, the players of Hearts have a dif-ferent battle to fight - against self-doubt - against Aberdeen at Hampden today. Five recent own ability to suggest that the was a good one - according to ren seasons to produce some of point lead in the league, semi-finals have been lost,

opposition such as Airdrie and St Mirren. Jim Jefferies, the Hearts manager, this week looked for evidence that things could be different this time.

"We are slight underdogs for Saturday, which will suit us, he said. "There's a big thing being made of this game because we are desperate to win the Cup for the first time in 40 years, but if we play as well as we can we will cause Aberdeen problems. I would disregard their defeat by Celtic because it will make them more determined to do well at Hampden."

For John Robertson and Gary Mackay, the game represents a final opportunity to get within

Arsenal y Leeds

Chelsos y Aston Villa

Republic of Ireland full-back Phelan

has a hamstring injury, so Minto is set to return to the Chelsea side, With Mark Hughes suspended, Furlong is likely to win a recall up front, while Promarkan International Petrescu is available again after a one-match ben. Southgate has been ruled out for four versels with a break internation of the promoter of the

weeks with a knee injury, so Staumton is set to deputiee for Villa, who have Johnson back in contention after a knee injury and Joachim available

Covertry manager Atkinson has in-uries to defenders Shaw and Burrows, so he has delayed naming his side-for a match which could have a big

say in the Sky Blues' bid to escane

Coventry v Liverpool

while Edinburgh hopes will rest mainly on the liberal sprinkling of quality youth at the club. Aberdeen will welcome back Stewart McKimmie from injury with Roy Aitken, their manag-

er, commenting: "It's all about how we perform on the day and Monday night's defeat is the last thing on my mind.
"We are the only undefeated Cup team in the country, having won eight ties, and now

we are looking for nine.
"My side will show their character at Hampden and this game is going to be all about ability and character - and that is something we have shown that

#### TEAM NEWS

continue in defence, while Matteo looks Beely to be recalled in place of Arsenal v Leeds
With skipper Adams still recovering from knee surgery. Marshall continues to deputise in an unchanged Arsenal. team. Twenty-goel feeding scorer Veright ricked his back in the 2-0 win over Newcastle, but is fit to take his place. For Leeds, leading scorer Yeboah is ruled out by a knee problem, while South African defender Radebe faces a late test on a similar ligible. Doings and Worthington have still to recover from harnstring injuries, so 15-year-old Jackson has been fined up as cover. **Everton v Bolton** 

Ankle injuries have sidelined Everton strikers Stuart and Rideout while defender Short serves a one-match ban, fender Short serves a one-metch ban, but midfielder Parkinson will return while Ebbrell has recovered from his anide problem. Botton, who are egain without the injured laggart, Branagarr and Todd, have added strikers Blake and Taylor to their squad along with recent defensive acquisition Small.

Mag City y Man Utd United skipper Bruce and full-back United stepper Bruce and full-back Invito are both expected to be fit to return after injury. Both face late tests. City manager Ball has still to decide whether to plunge new Georgian signing kevelasis will into the heat of battles for his debut after his £1.4m signing from Russian champlons Spartak Viadlikavkaz. Talented teenege winger Philips has been drafted into the squad.

Newcastle v QPR England defender Howey is ruled our by a harristring injury, so Peacock is likely to return. Like striker Ferdinand, he will be keen to impress against his old club. Deprenance medical man Barker is suspented, so manager. Williams will be forced to change the skill which defeated Southampton 30 less tweetend. say in the Sky Blues bid to escape. Barker is suspended, so manager religation. Pokering and Busst are Williams will be forced to change the likely to deputise. Liverpool manager is suspended, so manager will be forced to change the likely to deputise. Liverpool manager is suspended, so manager will be forced to change the likely to defeated Southampton up with Wright injured and Ruddock starting a two-match ben. Hardness, who substituted for Wright in the present will be forced to change the likely with defeated Southampton up with Wright injured and Ruddock.

**Notion Forcest v Tottenham who substituted for Wright in the present market is suspended, so manager is suspended, so manager will be forced to change the likely to deputise. It is a suspended, so manager will be forced to change the likely to deputise. It is a suspended, so manager is suspended to change the likely to defeated Southampton up with Wright injured and Ruddock starting a two-match ben. Hardness, which defeated Southampton up with Wright injured and Ruddock starting a two-match ben. Hardness, which defeated Southampton up with Wright injured and Ruddock starting a two-match ben. Hardness, which defeated Southampton up with Wright injured and Ruddock starting a two-match ben. Hardness, which defeated southampton up with Wright injured and Ruddock starting a two-match ben. Hardness, which defeated southampton up with Wright injured and Ruddock starting a two-match ben. Hardness, which defeated southampton up with Wright injured and Ruddock starting a two-match ben. Hardness, which is subject to the subject to the will be forced to change the will be forced to

White Hart Lane in October, has not trained all week because of a bedly bruised foot and is rated a doubtful starter. Woen, dropped for last week's defeat at Wimbledon, is set to return. Tottenham are hopeful winger Fox will recover from a sprained ankle, but centre-backs Mabbutt and Calderwood are still out, while Walker and Sinton are doubtful with a virus. Former England youth goalkeeper Day could make his

Southampton v Blackbe Saints striker Watson is posed to return after missing the lest two matches through suspension in place of
lisidate. Defender Halt is fit after being ruled out for the the lest three
games with a call injury. Blackdourn
are hopeful 34-goal Shearer will return after a groin injury to face his
old club, but midfielder Bohiman is
still struggling with an Achilles injury. out care, out monerous someon is still struggling with an Achilles injury, which has kept him out since Feb-ruary, and centre-half Hendry completes a two-match ban.

West Ham v Windledon West Harn will probably field Por-tuguese youngster Dani up front for only the second time trecause Cottee and Romanian international Dutee and romanian international Du-mitrescu are ruled ourt. With Pots suspended and Monour still our through injury, manager Reddinapp does not have too many options. Leading scorer Holdsworth may start the match for the Dons after scor-ing as a substitute in the win own. the march for the bons enter scor-ing as a substitute in the win over Forest, but Norwegan international midfielder Leonhardsen is likely to miss the rest of the season with dam-aged ankle ligements.

## The Lowryesque Meadow Lane was never full enough for toilets to overflow

It was the late spring of 1964 and Notts County had just been relegated, after a disastrous season, to the Fourth Division, as it then was. I remember it well because there was a club-owned house two doors down from us. in genteel suburbia, and its occupant, centre-half Alex Gibson, used to come in for a chat, gave me his match programmes and used our telephone. Lowerdivision footballers could not then afford the luxuries of voice

communication. "Nobody will go to watch them now they've been relegated." I proudly told my fam-. "Shush," said my mother, "Alec's on the phone, he'll hear you." So it was with Notts County in the mid-1960s, the silence of despair.

Unless, of course, you were my history teacher, who used to bellow from a quiet Spion Kop: "Come on County, you're

supposed to be highly paid professional entertainers." Wrong on all counts, but it kept the crowd amused, at least for

County then were primarily a home-grown side, lads from the city, from Carlton and from Eastwood providing the core of the team. Occasionally, there was an import, like Jim Raynor (goodness, he had played for Peterborough), George Han-nah (well past his sell-by date), Mike Barber (always injured, part of his QPR background, I suppose), and Terry Bly (from Coventry). None settled prop-

erly, pigs out of muck. But we did have Alex: a tower of strength in the middle of the defence, a one-club man from Auchinleck; a transient from one coal-mining area to another. I still have the postcards he sent as he went back home to his roots. We also had, in our Third

FAN'S EYE VIEW No 144 **Notts County** 

Division glory days, Tony Hate-ley (from Derby) and Jeff Asile (Eastwood), but bright Birmingham lights distracted

them and took them away, both

gone by the 1965-66 season. Meadow Lane in the earlier 1960s was almost Lowryesque in its features. Never full enough for the toilets to overflow, always quiet enough for my history teacher to be heard. Yet that famed gable end over the stand, "Notts County Foothall Club. Founded 1862", gave a satisfying glimpse of past glories. We were rotten, but at

County was the town's club.

least we were old.

No glory then, no expensive signings, just good park football players. My dad used to bet, by postal order, with a hotel owner in Paignton on the results of the County-Torquay United matches. He normally paid be-

cause we normally lost. Once, when such things were permissible, if not enjoyed, I ran on to the pitch at the end of a meaningless game and patted Jim Raynor on the back. "Well played, Mr Raynor." He ignored me, but "Mr Raynor"? Deference to heroes, however substandard; a different world.

Now the ground and its

stands form a pattern of yellows, blacks and whites. The years of progress in the later 1970s and early 1980s, the years of Chiedozie, Masson and McCulloch, briefly took County into the wide world of the First Division, and then back down again. No long-serving players then, little trawling of the local leagues. Notts County truly belong in the 1960s. That is where the

heart is; a small club with a dedicated following. A timewarp club that should have been content to shuttle between the lower divisions. After all, in Nottingham, there are not too many people who openly admit

to supporting County.
I'm no different. I transferred my allegiance to Forest when Alex Gibson retired. Mind you, he was good. Unlike me, though, he was County through and through.

Bet Montgom

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# Wednesday not out of trouble yet

Britons .

POT rescue

JOHN DOUGRAY Middlesbrough Sheffield Wednesday

After a tedious first half that must have sent Sky television viewers to sleep, this game sprang to life after the interval with a much-improved Middlesbrough scoring a convincing win to end any lingering relegation worries but heaping problems on an uninspiring Wednesday, who are still too near the bottom of the Premiership for comfort.

Wednesday, whose need to via was greater than Middlesbacugh's, made a lively start, a shade too much so on the part of John Sheridan, who was cautioned for an illegal challenge on Graham Kavanagh.

A neat build-up by Marc Degryse and David Hirst gave Guy Whittingham a distant view of goal and he was not far off the target with rasping dri-

Chris Freestone, making his first senior start after an impressive scoring run in the Middlesbrough reserves, scorned an early chance to celebrate, shooting straight at Kevin Pressman when he had the whole goal to aim at. However, when you make your Premiership debut alongside the famous Brazilian Juninho, chances are bound to come your way. The new partnership certainly looks promis-

However, with half an hour gone there had been precious little to excite the Middlesbrough supporters until Juninho found Jan Age Fjortoft just outside the penalty area. The Norwegian struck a fierce, low shot which was smartly turned

Ppp Blatter, the general secre-

tary of Fifa, the governing body

of world football, gave his per-

sonal backing yesterday to Kevin

Keegan's football philosophy.

The Newcastle manager has

reiterated his faith in the value

of attacking football despite the

disappointment of Wednesday's

After their fourth defeat in

the past six Premiership outings,

which left them three points be-

hind Manchester United, Kee-

gan said: "We'll carry on playing

aligned Fifa with the Newcas-

tle manager. Blatter said: "I

In a fax to Keegan, Blatter

4-3 defeat at Liverpool.

this way, or I go."

around the near post by Press-

There was an equally im-pressive effort by Kavanagh that whistled narrowly past the same post with the keeper scrambling along his line this

Seven minutes into the second half Middlesbrough took the lead after their midfielder Robbie Mustoe injected some much-needed urgency into the game. He ran purposefully at the Wednesday defence before setting up Juninho for a shot that Pressman blocked but only into the path of Fjortoft, who

Within a minute Wednesday had equalised, a 30-yard effort from Pembridge taking a deflection off Derek Whyte to wrongfoot the Middlesbrough

On the hour Middlesbrough made a substitution, Craig Hignett replacing the injured Kavanagh. Shortly afterwards, Middlesbrough regained the lead when Fjortoft crisply found the net from the edge of the area for his second goal while Wednesday appealed in vain for

The Wednesday defence was by now looking very shaky and they conceded a third goal when a Middlesbrough corner was headed on by Fjortoft at the near post to give Freestone the opportunity to ram the ball into the net on his first Premiership start. The home fans went wild with delight.

commitment to attacking foot-

ball, and your comments also

#### Saints add more misery to Wigan's week Rugby League that so many of Saints' hopes seemed finished, but back they Martyn, back after almost a year have foundered in the past,

DAVE HADFIELD

St Helens

A mortifying week for Wigan ended with the greatest torment of all as they were well-beaten by the neighbours on whom they have inflicted so much misery.

quadruple-bogey at the ninth. He hit his drive into the

woods and played out sideways

but when he reached the green realised he had played the wrong

ball and incurred a penalty

stroke. The Ryder Cup captain

then went back into the woods,

The joint leaders are Corey

Pavin, Jim Gallagher and John

Wilson on 66 with Russ

Cochran and Neal Lancaster a

stroke further adrift. Pavin had

birdies at the last three holes

while Gallagher hit an eagle at

the par-five 18th after bitting a

three-iron second shot to eight

start," Pavin said, "but I got up and down a few times and just

hung in there and things start-

ed to fall into place."

"I didn't get off to a great

found the correct ball and three-

putted for an eight.

about the referee's right to Saints shrugged off a dreadmake human errors. ful start at Knowsley Road yes-"Please allow me on behalf terday when it seemed that so of Fifa, and of all those who bemuch recent history was destined lieve in the spirit of fair play, to to be repeated. They eventually commend you for the positive outclassed Wigan decisively, attitude you bring to our game even if their victory was not with comments such as these." clinched until the last 10 minutes.

Although the 19-year-old winger, Danny Arnold, ran in a Blatter added that he believed Keegan's dignified response to defeat in such a crucial hat-trick of tries, making it game exemplified all that Fifa seven in two games since the launch of Super League, and Bobbie Goulding made a would want to see, and was a model for the world as a whole. major contribution by getting on top of Shaun Edwards, Saints' The French league agreed yesterday to remove all restricoutstanding player was the Austions on European Union playtralian, Derek McVey, playing his first full match for the club. have been greatly impressed by ers from next season in the wake your remarks regarding your of the Bosman case.

the repair work after a slipshod St Helens had conceded early tries to Terry O'Connor and Va'aiga Tuigamala, a onehanded pass out of the tackle giving Arnold his first try.

A suspiciously forward pass from O'Connor to Andy Farrell set up Martin Hall for a try which seemed to put Wigan back in control at 16-4, but that sparked a Saints backlash that brought them 22 points without reply.

Warrington made it two

Super League victories out of

two yesterday but they made

hard work of overcoming a

spirited Workington before run-

ning out 45-30 winners. They led by only 18-12 at half-

time and it took two intercep-

tion tries midway through the

second half to put them clear.

The first came from Warring-

ton's substitute, Richard

at start of

McVey's driving run set up the position from which Karle Hammond and Scott Gibbs put Arnold over once more:

Stopped in his tracks: Wigan's Henry Paul is collared by Chris Joynt (left) and Karle Hammond of St Helens at Knowsley Road yesterday

When McVey, looking an inspired signing from the Sydney ligers, got his pass away again for Keiron Cunningham to score, Saints were only two points behind at half-time and would have been ahead if it had not been for two of Goulding's kicks hitting the post.

It is on fine margins like that

Henare, who raced 50 yards to

score and four minutes later

Darren Carter's pass was in-

tercepted by Toa Kohe-Love,

who went 60 yards for a try.

Kohe-Love rounded off a fine

full debut three minutes from

time when he crossed for his

ton added a further try by Mark

Forster while Lee Chilton and

Badminston

Braush Hithonal Championships (Norinct) Finaks Men's singless D Half (Esse) bt
C Knowles (Lance) 9-15-15-3 15-0. Doubless
S Arcter (Worls) and C Hurt (Lancs) bt J Andeson
and I Person (Esse) 15-5 15-10. Women's singless T Groses (Susse) bt J Marm (Wandels) 11-5
11-6. Doubless: J Bardbury (Chor) and J Wingfit
(Lancs) bt J Davies (Lincs) and E Chaffin (Suriny) 15-12-15-5. Mixed doubless: S Archer (Worss)
and J Bradbury (Chor) bt N Porting (Glos) and J
Wright (Sussex) 17-14 15-6.

NBA: Cleveland 98 Toronto 77; Washington 113 Adanta 110; Boszon 100 Orlando 98; Chica-go 100 Marin 92; Phoritx 107 Utah 100; Gold-en State 98 Denver 90.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE (Thems): Newcastle Cornets 99 (Paterson 32, Saunders 20, Vousi-ous 18) Exide Manchester Gains 108 (Robin-son 39, Ellott 22, Williams 12).

Hugh Davies, the Giamorgan chairman, has survived an attempt to oust him from the post and has been re-elected for

Phil Simmons, the West Indies batsmen, has been fined 10 per cent of his match

has been intend to per cent or his mater fee for "attempting to intimidate the um-pire when appealing for a leg before wick-et decision" in the fourth one-day international against New Zealand on Wednesday. Simmons keeps his place in West Indies squad for the final game of the series, which is level 2-2, in St.

In a frantic finish, Warring-

but they were in no mood to let Wigan off the hook yesterday. In the third quarter of the

match, they drew level through Goulding's penalty and took the lead for the first time when Ian Pickavance charged straight through Henry Paul.

When McVey and Cunningham conjured up a third try for Arnold and Goulding chipped in with a drop goal, Wigan

Logan Campbell crossed for

Halifax Bluesox slipped to

their second defeat in two

Super League outings with their 34-22 loss at Oldham. They

also had their prop Paul Ander-

son dismissed a minute before

half-time for a high tackle on

Oldham looked to have the

Workington.

David Bradbury.

came through Rob Smyth, an early substitute for the injured Martin Offiah.

Goulding's penalty edged Saints further ahead but a second try for Hall, given on video evidence, and Paul's conversion had Wigan lurking just three points in arrears.

Saints kept their nerve, snatching the crucial try when Kris Radlinski lost Goulding's

Kohe-Love intercepts Town's challenge

22-10, but on a bone-hard pitch

Halifax drew level with two

tries in six minutes by their

diminutive scrum-half Craig

tries from Darren Abram - his

second - and Martin Crompton.

The scrum-half had a hand in

most of Oldham's six tries and

he was well supported by man

Oldham came back with late

out injured, to score. Wigan's disarray

summed up when Andy Northey ran through Edwards' attempted tackle in injury time. "Wigan will bounce back," Shaun McRae, Saints' coach, said. "There will be a pay-back from them, so we aren't getting carried away."

Wigan's Graeme West refused to blame the distraction of having two directors arrested in midweek for his side's failure. You can't use that as an excuse. They are professional players and they should not be worrying extra worry for Wigan, however, is Offiah, who was having X-rays on his back last night and looks doubtful for the match against Warrington on Monday.

St Helens: Prescot: Arrold, Gibbs, Newtore, Sullivan; Hammond, Goulding: Perehn. Cun-ningham. Fogeny, Joint, McVey, Northey, Sub-stitutes: Martyn, Matausa, Morley, Delivarios

#### Romania let Astafei jump for Germany

Romania agreed to allow Alina Astafei, the Romanian-born vorld indoor high jump chamnon, to compete for her adoptnd country, Germany, at the Dlympic Games after a 4-3 vote of the Romania's National Manpic Committee yesterday.

The two countries had been egotiating for months on the sue with Romania demanding ompensation for the money it pent developing the 26-year-ld's talent but that appeared ) have been dropped. "During ne talks there was no reference ) financial or other compenution," Lia Manoliu, presient of the committee, said. Astafei moved to Germany in

193 but was banned from comating for three years by Roanian officials who were orried that more athletes ight go west.

The Romanians cut short re ban and Astafei won the orld indoor title in March 195 in her first appearance in я леw passport.

Last month, Astafei regained European indoor title in ockholm that she had won in 189 jumping for Romania. m regulations prevented stafei from competing at lympic level within three years taking new citizenship with-If the agreement of the Roanian Olympic Committee. Last week the Romanian 20rts minister, Alexandru lironov, said his country had *nt about £450,000 "to create top medallist", and that Ger-23° should pay Romania to mipensate for Astafei's loss. The committee also voted to low 1995 world amateur box-g champion. Zoltan Linea 2 Coltage g champion, Zoltan Lunca, 1d the handball player Emil-Luca to compete for Gerany in the Atlanta Olympics.

#### **Montgomerie leads Europeans**

Fifa commend Keegan

The Europeans made little impact against the home contingent in Thursday's opening round of the BellSouth Classic in Marietta, Georgia, with Colin Montgomerie heading the visitors but he lies five shots off the pace. The Scot, runner-up in last week's Players' Championship and playing his final event prior to The Masters at Augusia, shot a one-under-par 71.

Ian Woosnam, the 1991 Masters champion, was one further adrift while the Czech-born Alexander Cejka, now a German citizen, shot a 77 on his American debut. Seve Ballesteros, who withdrew during the Players' Championship first round last week because of a back injury, continued his poor run of form with a 78 that included a

> FOOTBALL RESULTS acts LEAGUE Second Division: Tibury 1 Collier Row 0.

**FA Carling Premiership** ....3 Sheffield Wed (0

Endsieigh insurance League

First Division Cheriton (0) 1 Linton (1) 1. Alen pen 69 Thorpe 22 14.643
TOP SDK P W D L F A Pis
Sunderland 39 20 13 6 55 31 73 

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEACY: First Olvision: RTM Newcastle 1 Tow ' 3; Shidon 0 West Auckland 1. GREAT MELS LEAGUE Premier Divisions Barnstaple 1 Budeford 2; Calve 2 Chippernem 1; Mangotsfield 3 Bhslington 1; Paulton 1 Frome 0; Tiverton 1 Emore 0.

UNILIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE John O'Hara League Cup final: Haistram 2 Shoreham 3 (at Leylands Park, Burgess Hill). PONTANS LEAGUE First Division: Liverpoo 1 Eventon 1 (at Heig Avenue, Southport).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Portsmooth 2 Insuch 1. RUGBY LEAGUE RESULTS

Shottes Super League
Oldem (16) 34, Halfan (10) 22, Gidnam Tries
Atram 2, Azhesan, Compton, Maler, Parmore Gode
Majonty, S. Halfant Tries Dean 2, Boles, Halfant
Godes Umago 3, 03,932 PESA: SPENSOR SENSOR SE Godes Urnago 3. (3.932)

St Helens (1.6) 43, Wigns (1.6) 28. St Helens: Tries:
Ancid 3. KCurrengern, Maryn, Rostey, Polokaroc:
Books Governg G; Orep Godeling, Wigner, Thes Holl
2. (O'Corner, Smyth, Tugerneis; Godel-Fast 3. (15.853)
Warrington (1.8) 48. Worldington (1.2) 30. Warrington: Then Rote Loss 2. Bernett, Fosser, Bernett,
Angeles: Then Cortes Herms & Drop Herns. Worldington: Third Cortes America 2. Americang. Campites, Palregion; Third Cortes 2. Americang. Campites, Palregion; Godels Manucold 5. (4.5.11)

P. W. D. L. F. A. Pts. | Com Deversite, Thombey, Goals: Tyer 3, 14, 2193 | Whitehawen (4) 4, Huddenfield: (5) 37. Whitehawen (4) 4, Huddenfield: (5) 37. Whitehawen (5) Seets, Herdenfield: (5) Hair, Water, Goals: Schollet 5, Fether, Drop Mackey, 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 | 1,521 |

Leigh (10) 24, Swinton (28) 48, Leigh: Trios Bel, Doniel, Hill, McGegham, Veikoso: Goele: Williamson 2. Swinton: Trios Ashcott 2, Proc-Jones 2, Bi-lett, Cannon, Carning, Riley, Roach; Goels Br-lett 5. (2,933) Vol. (5) 12, Hell V.R. (30) 54, York: Price Lau-rence, Moureary Goels: Smrk 2, Hull VR: Toles G Brown 2, O'Arry 2, Gene 2, Charles, Hoe, Wantrober, Goels: M. Fletcher 8, Eacheood.

#### SPORTING DIGEST Three deaths Berney Ewell, a former world 100 me-tres record holder and three-times

Rasehall

**Badminton** 

Cricket

second.

Safari Rally

Three mechanics were drowned on yesterday's first day of the world championship Safari Raily. The trio were killed when their Land Rover support vehicle was washed away by a flash flood as they tried to negotiate a river crossing.

The accident happened near Ole Kejiado, about 65 kilometres south of the raily's Nairobi headquarters. Kenya's traditional Easter

event has a notorious reputation for sudden changes in the weather. Tracks and bone-dry river beds have been known to fill in seconds as storms herald the start of the rainy season. Tropical storms have already cut more than 200km from the near-3,000km test, which finshes tomorrow.

Sweden's Kenneth Eriksson ained a narrow first-day lead in his works Subaru. He battled the heavy rain, electrical trouble and fierce opposition from Mitsubishi driver Tommi Makinen to gain a 27-second advantage. Colin McRae, the world champion, finished third, 82 seconds behind his team-mate Eriksson.

> TODAY'S NUMBER

31,500

The capacity crowd expected at the San Jose State University's Spartan Stadium for the opening US Major League Soccer game between San Jose Clash and Washington DC United today. The match has been sold out since last Friday.

WEST INDIES 13 (Fifth one-day match v New Zeatand, St Vincent, today): C A Walsh (capt), S C Wilsons, Shrwaren Chandepaul, B C Lizza, P V Smrmons, J C Adams, R I Holder, P A Wal-lace, R A Harper, C O Browne, L R Wilsams, C E Ambrose, I Bishop.

Olympic medallist, has died, aged 78. Ewell won an Olympic gold in 1948 as part of the US 400m relay team and silver in the 100m and 200m. C E Ambrose, I Bishop.
Pakistan beat India by eight wickets in chasing a reduced target of 1.87 in their rain-affected Singer Cup march yesterday and will play Sr Lanka in the final tomorrow, each going through on net runate, affect both teams and India had one win in two games at the triangular event. SINGER CUP (Singapore): India 225 for 8 (47.1 overs; \$ Tendular 100); Pakistan 190 for 2 (28 overs; Aarnir Sohai 76 no, Seeed Anwer 74). Paldetan win by 8 wickets. Reselball
American League: Balomore 5 Kansas City
3; Detrot 10 Celdand 9 (15 Invings); Texas 13
Boston 2. Postponed: Clevatand v New York
Yarviers.
MATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal 10 Conomist 2;
Flonda 6 Fittstugh 2; New York Mets 10 St
Loue 9; Chicago Cuto 9 Los Angeles 4; Philodelphia 7 Colorado 4; San Francisco 7 Atlanta 1.

Italy's Marco Pantani, who is still re-covering from an homific crash last October, has extended his contract with

Football Mark Bowen, the 32-year-old Welsh in-ternational defender, has been given a free transfer by Norwich City. THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: European Cup-Winners' Cup Semi-finals first leg: D THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Europeen Cup-Winners' Cup Semi-finals first leg: D La Courin o Paris SG 1; Feyencord 1. Rapid Vienna 1. German Leegher Uerdingen 2 (Leenies 2.), Passiack 60; Kartsurb 3, Riecch 49, Hössler 71, Dundee 861; Kasserslautern O Schale D; WB Suntigan 1 (Eiber 29) Hense Rostnock 1 (Wayoboné 62). Beater Houses Leeghe Premier Division: Rushden & Dismonds O Dorchester 1. Leading positions: 1. Rushden & Darmonds (P34, Pts76); 2 Hatesowen fown (25-73), Icia Leegher Premier Division: Aylestony Und O Dutwach Harmlet 3; Carshelton Athletic O Harrow Borough 1. Third Division: Herichof Town O Archey 2. Interlink Express Midlend Alliance: Rushall Olympa O Hinckley Afficien D. Pontins League First Division: Blacknum Rovers 2 Derby Courty 2; Newcastle 2 Tranmere 4; Notts Courty O Man Utd 1.

GORÍ
BELLSOUTH CLASSIC (Marietta, Georgia)
Leading first-round scores (US unlose
stated): 66 J Wilson; C Pavm; J Gallagher. 67
R Cochran; N Lancesser. 68 M Bradley; D Duvist, M Calcavechia; N Proc (Zmi); P Staniouska. 69 P Biacionar; L Clements; F Allem (SA);
T Totles; G Sauers; J Imman; F Leiditer. 70 D
Forsmon; D Prust; S McCamon; T Kite; S
Bertsch; G Boros, Selected: 71 C Montgomerie
(GB); S Repoles (GB); D Frost (SA), 72 L Woosnam (GB); C Parry (Aus.), 73 B Ogle (Aus.); W
Grady (Aus.); S Lyle (GB), 74 S Torrance (GB);
L Parsone (Aus.), 75 I Baiter-Finch (Aus.); C Rocca (It); E Els (SA), 77 A Ceyta (Ger), 78 S Aopeby (Aus.); S Batlesspros (So); S Rantoul (Aus.)

Hockey MICKEY
MIEN'S EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP: A
Division (The Nague): Guidford (Eng) 3 Diatemburg (Rus) 1; Aldessa Valdeluz (Sp) 1 Gordonans ISCO) 0; Durkhermer (Ger) 2
Bonemans Praha (Cz Rish) 2; HDM (Neth) 2;
CA de Montrouge (Fr) 0, B Division (Gibraitarj: CUS Torno (I) 2 Libraistre & Llanded Tileh
2; Instonians (III) 1 Wen Cobra (Aut) 0; MZISS
Poezotowiec (Pol) 8 HC Portugel (Por) 1; Royal Leopold (Bel) 0 Eagles (Gib) 0 (abandoned.
MYMARKEN A DURISTAN (Botherstant) Poetosus WOMEN A DIVISION (Rotterdam); Pegasus (Rep of Irl) O State Francas (Pr) O: Beriner (Gar 1 Sardnero (Sp) O; Hightown 4 Dinamo

Surry (Ukr) 1.

SIX MATIONS YOUTH INTERNATIONALS
(Paris) Men Under-18's: Scotland 1 Germany
1 England 2: France 2 Netherlands 4. Women
Under-18's: Sport 4 Scotland 0. Under-18's:
Victorian 5 Sport 4 Scotland 0. Under-18's:

ice bockey

game sewn up when they led of the match, Paul Atcheson.

Motorcycling
Indonesian Grand Pritx (Sentul, Indonesia) Leading qualifying times: 500cc:
1 Tedsyuk Okada Ulapan) Honda Turin
27.05486; 2 Michael Donhan (Mas) Honda
1.27.138; 3 Alexandre Barros (Br) Honda
1.27.547; 4 Carles Checa (Sp) Honda
1.27.569; 6 Donard Romboni Itu Aprila
1.27.712, 250cc: 1 M Biegg (t) Aprila Turi
29.68280; 2 R Waddmann (Ger) Honda
1.30.340; 3 Tetsuya Harada (Japan) Yaraha 1.30.720; 4 Nobustus Aok (Japan) Honda
1.30.993; 5 Or Jacque (Fr) Honda
1.31.145.

Raillying SAFARI RALLY (Neirobi, Kenya) First day leading placings (sacond round of the world chempionship): 1 & Enkson (See) Subaru impreza 2tr 2/mm časc; 2 T Makinen (Fin) Mrsubsh Lancer + 21: 3 C McRed (ES) Subaru impreza + 1:22sec: 4 | Duncen (Ken) Toyota Celica 2:38; 5 C Sanz (Sp) Ford Escort 8:38.

Rugby League STORES SUPER LEAGUE (Thereday): London Broncos (16) 38 Paris St-Germain (6) 22. Broncos Tries McPac 2, Tolker 2, Dyneyr, Meyer, Paul; Goals Barwich 4, Dyneyor. Paris: Tries Bornet, Cavello, Ramondou, Turner; Goals Torrelles 3, (9,638).

Rugby Union EUROPFAN CUP PLAY-OFF; Glasgow District 13 North & Midlands 21 (at Meggelland). CLIB MATCHES: Credion 11 Okehampton 22; St Day 10 Striblans 50. Cancelladt bybndge v Plymouft; Radiuth Quins v Bodman; St Agnes v Truro Scris O 8; Wadebridge v Newquey.

SHITISH OPEN (Plymouth) Second round: M. Johnson-Allon (Eng) to A Hamilton (Eng) 5-4; F. O'Bren (Rep of In) bt J. White (Eng) 5-3; K. Doherty (Rep of In) bt J. White (Eng) 5-3; K. Doherty (Rep of In) bt Allock (Eng) 5-4. Third round: O Hanold (Eng) bt M. Johnson-Allen (Eng) 5-3; N. Bond (Eng) to 5 Hanold (Eng) bt S. Hanold (Eng) bt S. Hanold (Eng) bt A McMarus (Sco) 5-1.

Speedway

PREMIER LEAGUE: London 58 (K Tatum 15, L Adams 13, P Hurry 12, J Larsen 10) Ipswich 40 (C Louis 10); Middlesbrough 63 (M Doon 13, S Parker 12, D Walsh 12) Sheffield 33 (S Ermolerán 12, G Stead 91; Oxford 51 (T Topinite 12, B Binel 10, M Cou 10); Petarborough 45 U Cuntro 12, R Suffician 12; Ipswich 52 (C Louis 15, J Doncaster 11) London 44 (L Adams 11); P Hern 11 J K Tatum 10). Adams 11, P Huny 11, K Tatum 10). EASTER TROPHY first leg: Poole 46 (C Boyce 16, L Gunnestad 15) Eleter 49 (M Simmonds 12, P Thorp 11).

LEPKES BRITISH OPEN (Cardiff) Men's singles, second round: P Gregory (G) bt A Gough (Wall 15-8 15-11 15-10; Jansher khan (Pak) Wali 15-8 15-11 15-10; Jansher Man (Pai) bi Zarak Jahan (Pai) 15-7 15-10 15-11. Quantar-Mandler R Eyles (Aus) bi A Hill (Aus) 15-10 15-9 15-7; B Abartin (Aus) th M Chaloner (Engl 15-6 13-15-15-8 15-9. Women's second round: C Jodoman (Engl bit V Cardwell (Aus) 9-19-59-6; F Geaves (Engl bit R Mactree (Engl 9-59-09-0); C Owens (Aus) bit L Marsh (NZ) 9-4-9-2-9-2 S Paglergy (Aus) bit S Wirgst (Engl 3-9-9-7-9-1-0-9) quantar-finalism Martin (Aus) bit S Homer (Engl 9-6-5-19-3, J Martin (Engl bit L stang (Aus) 9-2-9-2-8Table tennis

BALLY USB OPEN CHARPONSHIPS (Nettering)
Men's singles qualifying groups: A Peny (Erg)
Men's singles qualifying groups: A Peny (Erg)
Men's singles (Erg) 21-19 21-11 21-15; S Caenano (Luo) bt C Oddield (Erg) 21-18 22-20
21-13; F Trutiel (Can) bt A Eden (Erg) 19-21
21-17 21-17 15-21 21-13; P Gies (Erg) by Nemist Nemi 21-14 21-14 12-21 24-22; Jlayfor (Fig) is M Sterberg (Sue) 21-18 14-21 21-19 18-21 21-17; B Billingon (Fig) is Straw (Fig) 21-7 21-11 21-15; C Oldfield (Fig) is P Torres (So) 18-21 16-21 21-16 21-11 21-15; E Walker (Sco) is S Straw (Fig) 21-12 21-15; E Walker (Sco) is S Straw (Fig) 21-12 21-16; E Fader (Fig) 14-12 21-16 21-17; A Peny (Fig) is P Gales (Fig) 21-12 21-12 1-14; A Eden (Fig) is S Crawfort (Sco) 21-13 21-12 21-18 (Fig) is C Crawfort (Sco) 21-13 21-12 21-18 (Fig) is V Augustson (Swe) 21-16 21-17 21-18; B Dauriton (Wal) is E Sloan (Sco) 21-7 21-7 21-13; I Radiood (Fig) is R Joseph (Tan) 21-6 21-2 21-8; H Jower (Fig) is V K Moseeley (Barb) 17-21 21-12 21-18 13-21 21-12: N Mutti (fig) is G Sco) 21-7 21-12 1-12 1-17 21-17 17-17 18 (Sco) (Fig) is C Sco) (Fig) in C Sco) (

Muttu (furf bt G Schwartz (Engl 21-17 21-12 21-17 31-18) L Thormton (Engl 21-15) 11-21 21-18 21-19; N Williams (Wal) bt T Daws (Engl 21-16 18-21 21-11 26-24); Gejic (Swel) to D Toole (Engl 21-18 21-17); L Radford (Engl bt J Roberts (Engl 21-7 16-21 21-12): 1-18; C Gless (Engl bt E Sloan (Soc) 21-18 22-34 21-3 21-5; K Andersson (Swel) bt I Thorrson (Engl 21-16 21-13 21-17).

RAMELY CRICLE CUP (Hilton Head, SC), second round: 1 Majol (Croa) bt A Coetzer (SA) 7-6 6-3; 7 Novotna (Cr Rep) bt A Fusa (Fr 6-2 7-5; 5 Hack (Ger) bt M J Fernandez (US) 6-2 6-4; P Begerow (Aut) bt M Pierce (Fr) 1-6 7-5 6-1.

7-5 6-1.

DAVIS CUP, World Group, quarter-finals: (Calcutta) Sweden lead India 2-0 (J Bjorkman (Swe) bt L Paes (Ind) 1-6 6-4 5-7 6-3 7-5; T Erquist bt M Bhupairi 6-7 7-6 8-1 6-1). (Rome) South Ahna lead tast 1-0 (M Onhusia (SA) bt R Furlan (I) 6-4 6-4 6-4). (Limages) France lead Germany 1-0 (C Polane (Fri bt D Phonosi (Gar) 6-0 6-7 6-4 6-3). (Prague) US lead Cazel Republic 1-0 if Maron (US) bt P World (Ct Rep) 6-2 6-4 7-5).

FirmalAfrica Zone. Group Que, second

EurojAfrica Zone, Group One, second round: (Dubrovnik, Cros) Croate lead Ulvarne 1-0. (Heisland) Romana lead Finland 2-0. (Tel Anhy) Span lead Israel 2-0. (Casablemea) Morotca and Zimbabwe level 1-1.

rocco and Zmbabwe level 1-1.
Asia/Occamia zone, Broup Oce, second round: (Seoul) South Korea and New Zealand level 1-1. Play-off: (Jalanta) Chura lead Indonessa 2-0. Group Two, second round: (Banglock) Rhaland lead Hong Kong 2-0. (Peshamar, Pak) Uzbelestan lead Palustan 2-0. (Tokyo) Australia lead Japon 2-0.
LIA REPSOK TOUR EVENT (Mail) Final: Ross Matheway GRB NE WHOSTON CE 16:2-6-3.

Rickard Rydell, of Sweden, and the Volvo team yesterday made the fastest time at Donington Park in the final testing for Monday's opening rounds of the 1996 Auto Trader RAC Touring Car Championship. Official qualifying takes place tomorrow and a record crowd is expected on Monday.

ALITO TRADER RAC TOURING CAN CHAM-

AUTO TRADER RAC TOURING CAS CHAM-PIONSHIP (Domington Park, Derby, Monday) Top besting times: 1 R Rudel (See Volvo 850 Imm 37.193set; 2 F Beta (Ger) Auti A4 1:37.186; 3 J Winkelmock (Ger) BafW 320; 1:37.230; 5 A Menu (Swr) Remault Laguna 1:37.330; 5 A Menu (Swr) Remault Laguna 1:37.3518; 6 R Ratagla (IV, BAFW 320; 1:37.559; 8 J Cleand (GB) Vaurhalt Vec-tra 1:37.559; 8 J Cleand (GB) Vaurhalt Vec-tra 1:37.559; 8 J Cleand (GB) Vaurhalt Vec-tra 1:37.559; 8 J Cleand (GB) Vaurhalt Vec-Tal. 1807; 9 9 1856 (tal.) Hongs Accord 123. RSPB: 1D N Bur. (pp.) Votus 850 1:37,666; 12 11 J Kaye (GB) Hongs Accord 1:27,666; 12 J Britishe (GB) Audi 43 1:37,896; 13 P Ra-cisson (GZ), Fore Manaro 1:36,275; 14 R Mare (GB) Vaustus Carone 1:36,275; 15 P Watts (GB) Pengest 406 1:39,279.

-: - ,;







Monday's

A day when the River Thames turns blue

# Hill keeps Williams in front of the pack

**Motor racing** DAVID TREMAYNE reports from Buenos Aires

Can anyone stop the Williams-Renault steamroller? Apart from the numerous bumps on the Parc Almirante Brown circuit for tomorrow's Argentine Grand Prix, that is the underlying concern in Formula One circles following Damon Hill's runaway successes in Australia and Brazil. On current form, Williams are going to have to lose before anyone else can win.

As usual, yesterday's unofficial practice session was a game of bluff, with Damon Hill biding his time and Jacques Villeneuve learning the circuit. which lies just outside the sprawl of Buenos Aires. Hill was content to follow his own agenda, shrugging off two spins and then setting the fastest time right at the end to displace Michael Schumacher, Jean Alesi and Mika Hakkinen.

The moods in the individual garages are enlightening. Benetton are quietly optimistic that they will have their straight-line speed problem rectified in time for the European Grand Prix at the Nürburgring at the end of the month. Ferrari are buoved by Schumacher's speed thus far this weekend, but are not kidding themselves. His third place in Brazil owed more to the driver than to the car, and he Hill in the closing stages. Fer- ing their dominance into yet rari are working on a redesign of the car's aerodynamic pack-

The German is also unhappy about the state of the track. "This morning it was very dirty, which you would expect on the first day," he said. "But the bumps are very, very bad too. This is not (Ger, Ferran) 1:29,799; 3 J Aless (Pr, how it should be." At McLaren.

Mika Hakkinen's speed has come as a profound relief, particuarly in view of the performance of Hakkinen's Finnish 1:30.890; 10 O Pans (Fr, Liger) 1:31.013. very, very bad too. This is not



rival, Mika Salo, in a Tyrreli

whose running budget would barely pay McLaren's air fares. The greatest threat to Williams and Benetton may well come from Jordan in races to come, but thus far the British team have struggled to set up their cars for this twisting track. They nevertheless have the stability of their second season of collaboration with Peugeot and recently welcomed a cash injection from Benson & Hedges. which may finally enable them to expand the established top four into a top five.

Benetton, Ferrari and Mc-Laren ultimately believe that their cars have greater development potential than the Williams, which is effectively an updated version of the 1995 car. However, even if this proves to be the case any crossover point may come too late to prevent was not amused to be lapped by the Didcot team from convertmore Championship success. "As I predicted, it's pretty

age: Schumacher's on-the-limit driving has been glorious to watch, but reeks of frustration.

The German is also unhappy proved there are several cars. here capable of doing that." ARGENTINE GRAND PRIX (Buenos Aires



Eight strong favourites: The Cambridge crew complete their training for the 142nd Boat Race yesterday. The Light Blues are seeking a fourth consecutive victory against Oxford today that would extend their overall lead over the Dark Blues. The bookmakers expect them to be successful Preview, page 24; photograph, Robert Hallam

# ints section



wers periformed at Wermbley. This is go ie to sound awful, but I almost wisher hat one of them would take a swing the he reserve or that they would start fig g among themselves. Anything to sta that they were actually interested.

In this week's Monday Interview, Howard Wrikinson, the manager of Deeds United, talks to Ken Jones

#### Football fever

Comprehensive coverage of the weekend gramme, including reports from every Premie match and both Tennents Scottish Cup second

#### River blues

Hugh Matheson reports on the 142nd Boat Rife and Dan Topolski, Oxford's director of coaching gives his inside verdict

#### Argentinian beef

David Tremayne reports from Buenos Aires of Argentinian Grand Prix

#### Sure bet

Full guide to the Easter Monday racing programm including all 16 race cards

Plus: Sports betting Book of the Week, and John Roberts has The Final Word

#### In tomorrow's Independent on Sunda



the US Masters is trans- Plus: Full reports on the formed from a breathtaking race for the Premiership and sporting pageant among the the battle to stay in it. gottes of a Georgian spring lan Ridley on the was into a savage diallenge of a nerves -engulfing Kevit pleira's ability and an assault Keegan and his side while on his composure ruthless Newcastle's Robert Legendry to leave a scar on his and Liverpool's Stan Cally sould. The battle for the fa-more provide a players in mouls Green Jacket doesn't sight into the match for a

holes, and by then the A gusta National has shed trappings of paradise as Peter Corrigan looks the contenders for the golf major of the year of **8** gusta, while **Andrew Fam** meets the guru behind the

Woosnam. really begin until the final nine seasons.

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#### THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

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- ACROSS
  1 Bi element, rather pinkish?
- 10 A detachment in quarantine? (9) 11 Couches constructed from
- swine (5)

  15 Be let out? Unlikely, when one's in dungeon (9)

  18 Glance and a smile from him? (6, 3)

  19 Inside boat, last place to look for set of charts? (5)

  21 Confusing situation about one type of cereal (5)

  25 Writer in C.

  Cold shows stoned? (9)

  Merit awar vicewomen (5)

  Girl has an blissful env

THE FRANKLIN SCRAMBLE

- 23 Mode of transport which may have to be locked up? (5, 4) 25 Sociable type once entering
- Complaint by a graduate with specifically female job designation? (7)

  A detachment in quarantme? (9)

  Couches constructed from old irons (9)

  Former ecclesiastical land re
  Sociable type once entering car in road race (9)

  Spirit, very old one found right across Denmark (5)

  Townpour's nothing to bishown once of in pavilion (7)

  Sudden extravagance, investing money in euphorbia (7)

  DOWN

  Calais people sourning hot
- 11 Couches constructed from old irons (9)
  12 Former ecclesiastical land returned by the Belgians (5)
  13 Power exercised by ill-bred swine (5)
  15 Be let out? Unlikely, when one's in dungeon (9)
  18 Glance and a smile from

  1 Calais people spurning hot fast food? (7)
  2 Writer in communal housing became embittered (9)
  3 For starters, United's next cup fixture will be free (5)
  4 Cold shower you'd have, if stoned? (9)
  - (3)
    vicewomen in very small units (5)
    Girl has an upset in Hilton's blissful environment (7-2)
    (2)
    (3)
    Symbol many others will display (5)
    24 Aim to take pupils round the day before (5) rd accepted by ser-

- G R C A S R
  HOLCE HINDER
  T N G L
  FFIRM SEESAW
  O T A P N T
  RRISTER LATCH
- I E C E A L X CARE DEFRAYMENT 7 Expatriate English side over-
- coming the French (5)

  Free from evasiveness, as religious education must be? (7)

  14 One at the top almost bowed out, for instance, feeling mis-
- erable (9)

  16 Green stuff formerly identified in brief record penned by botanist (9)

  17 Lofty religious group that's difficult to deal with? (4, 5)

  18 Searthing backets over the control of the contr 18 Sparkling bachelor over-whelmed by sorrow (7) 20 Jolly astute to keep one's po-
- sition (7) 22 Bury missing start of season

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# Pride and passion will fill Maine Road

Anfield, the three-way race for the championship today runs smack into the six-team scramble to avoid the toxic trauma of relegation. For those who come off worse in the collision, the damage will go deeper than

mere morale. Local honour will be a factor in the Manchester derby at Maine Road, although United -three points clear of Newcastle with a game more played, and five ahead of Liverpool - have found visits to 16th-placed City less than fraught in recent times. Last season Alex Ferguson's men added a 3-0 romp to the 5-0 rout at Old Trafford.

City, indeed, have not beaten their neighbours since Mel Machin was manager in 1989. The T-shirts which proclaimed "Mel's Marvels 5, Fergie's Wallet 1" have long since turned to tatters. Symbolic, some might say, of their relationship to United, although the signs have been more positive during Alan Ball's reign.

In the meetings this season, one in the Premiership and the more recent one in the FA Cup, United won only 1-0 and 2-1. On the latter occasion, they needed an outrageous penalty award to kick-start them after Georgi Kinkladze had performed the rare feat of outscheming Eric Cantona.

"The gap in the table is very big, but the gap between the teams is getting closer," Ball said. "They'll certainly take us seriously. We won't roll over like we've done before. "None of our fans should be talking about suicide if United

do the double over us. They are

what we want to be. But we're

only just starting. They've got a

five-year start over us. Everything's in place there." City's best hope may lie in the aerial power of Niall Quinn. Steve Bruce hopes to return for United but, if he is forced to sit out the match with Gary Pal-

After the intoxicating drama of **Phil Shaw** previews a weekend where local honour is as crucial as Premiership points

> of height in defence. Mikhail Kavelashvili, Kinkladze's fellow Georgian, is set for a momentous debut but, with Steve Lomas suspended and Garry Fliteroft sold, City may find it hard to win enough of the ball to supply their strikers.

As Ball is fond of pointing out, his Southampton side lost all three Easter matches two years ago, yet stayed up. His comments found an echo this week from Ron Atkinson. Coventry, bottom but one, receive Liverpool before going to United on Monday, but their manager asserted: "There's no rule that says we can't take 18

points from the last six games." Indeed not, except that Coventry have so far managed only five wins out of 32. History, in the shape of 4-0 and 5-1 victories over Liverpool in 1983 and '92 respectively, shows what can be done. More pertinently, they won at Antield soon after Atkinson's arrival last year, and also drew there in the autumn.

Queen's Park Rangers, one place above Coventry, may be unsure what to expect at Newcastle. Will it be a backlash - or has the manner of their defeat at Liverpool drained Kevin Keegan's team of their self-be-

lister, the leaders will be short Ball: They'll take us seriously

lief? Darren Peacock deputises for the injured Steve Howey, although the player most likely to push QPR towards the drop is another of their old boys, Les Ferdinand.

It is also reunion day at Southampton, where Blackburn hope to have Alan Shearer fit to join Tim Flowers against his previous club. After six defeats in seven games, what better time for that fallen Saint, Matthew Le Tissier to play like an angel once more? It may stiffen Southampton's resolve to learn that Aston Villa's press adverts for Monday carry the insensitive selling point:

Saints on the brink!"
Villa's Ugo Ehiogu has an incentive to excel in the game between the beaten FA Cup semi-finalists at Chelsea, which may otherwise have an end-ofseason flavour. In the absence of Howey, Pallister, Tony Adams and Gareth Southgate, the uncapped 23-year-old is the only one of Terry Venables' England centre-backs currently in action.

The Endsleigh League champions-elect, Sunderland, must improve on a record of one win in eight visits to Barnsley to keep Derby and Crystal Palace at bay. Most First Division matches have some bearing on promotion and relegation, with some clubs, notably Birming-ham, unsure which they are in-

Six of the Second Division's top seven meet while, in the Third, Gillingham's disappointment at seeing Preston open up a five-point lead could be assuaged by the news that a place in the record books could still be theirs. They have leaked just 18 goals - Port Vale set the landmark for the lower divisions with 21 in 1953/54 - and today tackle Hartlepool, who have not scored on their last six visits.



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